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| From: ENAV Committee | ARM1-7.1.12 (ENAV15-14.1.12) |
| To: ARM and SG | 15 October 2014 |

Liaison Note

Persistent Unique Identifier (PUI) for AtoN in S-100

# Introduction

At ENAV15, the Committee reviewed the input paper (e-NAV 15-8.2), submitted on behalf of the IHO Standardisation of Nautical Publications Working Group (SNPWG). The IHO SNPWG has proposed that each AtoN be assigned an internationally recognizable ‘Persistent Unique Identifier’ (PUI). In their proposal, SNPWG noted that “An increasing number of offices produce their List of Lights information from a database. The re-order of both the national and/or the international numbers would cause significant problems for the producer.”

### Assessment

The introduction of a Persistent Unique Identifier (PUI) for AtoN into S-100 will support IALA in its efforts in achieving AtoN data harmonization, improve interoperability of these data in the envisioned e-navigation environment, and improve data quality through automation of List of Lights production. The use of a common number for an AtoN could result in the initiation of a data stream for AtoN information from source to user and supports the IMO e-navigation concept.

### Additional Considerations

Furthering this concept; the addition of PUI to waterway headers traditionally used in nautical publications will harmonize the exchange of larger data sets containing relevant marine information to a particular waterway (e.g. all AtoN contained within the waterway, other unique navigation features within that waterway, and Marine Safety Information geo-referenced to the waterway).

# Action requested

The ARM Committee is requested to review the assessment, additional considerations and annex.

After consideration by the ARM Committee, the Secretary General is requested to send a letter to IHO endorsing the proposal that each AtoN be given a Persistent Unique Identifier. Furthermore, it is requested that both IHO-SNPWG and IHO-HSSC be invited to consider the expansion of the PUI concept to include waterway headers.

**ANNEX**

IALA reviewed an input paper submitted by the IHO Standardisation of Nautical Publications Working Group (SNPWG). The IHO SNPWG has proposed that all AtoN be assigned an internationally recognizable ‘Persistent Unique Identifier’ (PUI). In their proposal, SNPWG noted that “An increasing number of offices produce their List of Lights information from a database. The re-order of both the national and/or the international numbers would cause significant problems for the producer.”

IALA supports the introduction of a Persistent Unique Identifier (PUI) for AtoN and notes that it will support IALA in its efforts in achieving AtoN data harmonization, improve interoperability of these data in the envisioned ENAV environment, and improve data quality through automation of List of Lights production. Additionally, the use of a common number for an AtoN could result in the initiation of a data stream for AtoN information from source to user and supports the IMO e-Navigation concept.

Furthering this concept, IALA invites IHO SNPWG and IHO HSSC to consider the application of PUI to waterway headers traditionally used in nautical publications which will harmonize the exchange of larger data sets containing relevant marine information to a particular waterway (e.g. all AtoN contained within the waterway, other unique navigation features within that waterway, and Marine Safety Information geo-referenced to the waterway).