

Input paper for the following Committee(s):

(Select as appropriate)

☒ ARM

☐ ENG

☐ PAP

☐ ENAV

☐ VTS

Purpose of paper:

☒ Input

☐ Information

Agenda item

7.3

Technical domain/ Task number

Author(s)/Submitter(s)

Secretariat

ENHANCEMENT OF MARINE ATON TRAINING WITHIN STCW FRAMEWORK

1. BACKGROUND

Developments in Marine Aids to Navigation (AtoN) technologies and the shift towards digitalisation necessitate the establishment of robust training mechanisms. This ensures that mariners are equipped with the essential knowledge and practical capabilities required for efficient and safe navigation.

IALA has observed a considerable gap in the training protocol delineated by the STCW Code, particularly concerning the IALA Maritime Buoyage System.

- Insufficient Training: STCW mandates a 2-hour training hours for the IALA Maritime Buoyage System, which has been identified as suboptimal considering the complexity of modern AtoN facilities.
- Technological Evolution: The dynamic nature of maritime navigation, coupled with technological advancements in Marine AtoN, emphasizes the need for exhaustive and competent training for seafarers.

2. PROPOSAL

The revision of the STCW pertaining to the IALA Maritime Buoyage System (MBS) is pivotal. Recognizing that modifying the STCW demands a substantial investment of time and effort, an alternative approach is suggested: updating the relevant IMO Model Courses to reflect contemporary needs.

Update the STCW Model Courses 7.01, pertaining to Master and Chief Mate, and 7.03, related to the Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch, to incorporate a comprehensive and advanced module, ensuring an comprehensive and in-depth examination of AtoN.

3. NEXT STEPS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Proposal submission: submit a detailed proposal and necessary documentation to the IMO, explaining the urgency and importance of enhancing the Marine AtoN training within the STCW framework.

Task group establishment: Formulate a task group, assembling experts and stakeholders, tasked with ensuring the effective implementation and continual review of the revised training protocols.

4. ACTION REQUESTED OF THE COMMITTEE

ARM is requested to consider the proposal and progress the task.

