Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-2) ARM18-7.7.1

Input paper for the following Committee(s): Purpose of paper:

**X** ARM **□** ENG **□** PAP **X** Input

**□** ENAV **□** VTS **□** Information

Agenda item [[2]](#footnote-3) 7.7

Technical Domain / Task Number 2 Task 2.2.2 (“… and other AIS associated documentation”)

Author(s) / Submitter(s) The Swedish Maritime Administration (SMA)

The Swedish Transport Agency (STA)

Proposal for a new IALA manual

# Summary

With reference to the IALA work programme for 2023-2027, S1020 AtoN design and delivery and task 2.2.2 Full review of A-126, G1084 and other AIS associated documentation, a review must be carried out of existing IALA recommendations and guidelines containing AIS information related to the use of AIS in Marine AtoN.

A review of all IALA documentation relating to AIS was carried out during ARM 17. According to the work programme the ARM Committee is to coordinate a cross-committee review to consolidate and update AIS documentation into a succinct document suite. Sweden looks forward to the cross-committee work and therefore suggests that all current AIS recommendations and guidance are collected in only one document by creating an IALA AIS Manual. Tentatively, a short series of digital cross-committee workshops conducted during a limited period in 2024 could be an effective working environment to create an AIS Manual.

## Purpose of the document

With the aim of creating an AIS Manual, the ARM Committee is suggested to invite more of its own AIS expertise as well as representatives with knowledge and experience regarding AIS of the other IALA Committees (DTEC, ENG and VTS) to the suggested digital cross-committee workshop in 2024.

The cross-committee work during the proposed workshop series could be promoted by an independent team leader which Sweden suggests is appointed by the IALA Secretariat.

## Related documents

IALA work programme for 2023-2027

S1020 AtoN design and delivery

ARM17-12.1 Report of ARM17

R0126 The Use of the AIS in Marine AtoN Service

PAP52-6.2.1 Liaison note to PAP on the review of AIS documentation (ARM17-11.2.4)

# Background

In connection with the review of associated AIS documentation during ARM17, task group 2.2.2 (Full review of A-126, G1084 and other AIS associated documentation) conducted an inventory of the IALA website which resulted in a compilation of close to a hundred IALA documents in which AIS is mentioned (Annex 1).

The same information appears in several documents, which can be confusing for the reader. For that reason, the task group’s ambition is to reduce the amount of and merge similar documents that contain the same information.

During ARM 17 an action plan was produced which proposes, among other things, which AIS documents should be maintained or archived/retired and also suggests a revised version of R0126 which will be repurposed as a brief summary of available IALA documentation on the same subject.

The Secretariat was requested to forward liaison note (ARM17-11.2.4) to PAP on the review of AIS documentation (PAP52-6.2.1) requesting PAP to note the proposed approach.

# Discussion

Through the Swedish Maritime Administration (SMA), Sweden has had a leading role in the development of AIS becoming a global standard (Annex 2). Therefore, the SMA believes that the review of existing IALA AIS associated documentation, before they are ready to be selected into documents to be maintained or archived, should be analysed by an expert group with documented AIS competence before selection. To avoid a document being archived based on an incorrect decision due to insufficient knowledge within the cross-committee cooperation regarding the review of which AIS documents should be maintained or archived is essential. Therefore, other committees within IALA that are affected by these documents should also be involved in the work with task 2.2.2 to be able to make well-founded decisions.

Essential in this case is also the definition of “archived/retired”. IALA should consider the possibility to digitize and keep all AIS associated documentation digitally searchable on the IALA website, even if they are formally retracted as a result of the work with this task.

Inspired by the IALA VTS Manual (M1100 VTS Manual 2021 Ed8) the Swedish Transport Agency (STA) proposes that a similar application should also be implemented in this context, which would mean that all existing AIS documents are collected in only one document, by creating a suitable structure for this purpose. This prevents any document from being rejected on the wrong basis. This AIS manual is suggested as an alternative to using the revised recommendation R0126 and underlying guidelines, as to be a single comprehensive sourcebook for the user containing all up-to-date information on the use of AIS in Marine AtoN.

In accordance with the current task group 2.2.2 review, an AIS Manual would give the reader a good overview and guidance of existing AIS documents including recommendations and guidelines. Further an AIS Manual would make it easier for the reader when searching for AIS information.

With the aim of creating an IALA AIS Manual, it is proposed that a short series of digital cross-committee workshops is conducted during a limited period in 2024.

# References

1. See 6.1 (Annex 1).
2. See 6.2 (Annex 2).

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to:

1. Give further guidance on and endorse the proposal to create an IALA AIS Manual related to use in Marine AtoN.
2. Consider and endorse the proposed short series of digital cross-committee workshops as a suitable working environment to create an AIS Manual.
3. Task group 2.2.2 (ARM WG1) to recommend to the Committee which AIS documents in Annex 1 should be maintained or archived/retired.
4. Forward a liaison note to the DTEC, ENG and VTS Committees inviting them to assign volunteer AIS experts to the proposed short series of digital cross-committee workshops to review AIS documentation with the aim of creating an AIS Manual.
5. Task the Secretariat to appoint an independent team leader for the proposed short series of digital cross-committee workshops.
6. Note the information from the SMA about AIS in Annex 2 (AIS How a Swedish innovation became a global standard).
7. Take any other action as it may consider appropriate.

# Annex

## Annex 1

List of current IALA AIS documents - result of review during ARM17.

## Annex 2

SMA information about AIS “AIS How a Swedish innovation became a global standard”.

1. Input document number, to be assigned by the Committee Secretary [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Leave open if uncertain [↑](#footnote-ref-3)