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Author(s) / Submitter(s) Japan Coast Guard

Northern Lighthouse Board

Proposal for developing new Guideline on Lighthouse Twinning

# Summary

This document proposes to develop a new guideline on Lighthouse Twinning. The aim is to establish basic policies to foster international relationships, publicize lighthouse-related activities, and garner public understanding and support through lighthouse cooperation.

# Background

Lighthouses in the world serve as iconic symbols of local communities and are often leveraged as cultural and tourist attractions. There are many examples of active international partnerships such as twin city or twin port in the world which help foster mutual understanding, friendship and collaborative working to promote local communities. Similarly, forming a connection between lighthouses with shared origins, geographical characteristics, or cultural values, can be leveraged to enhance regional tourism and encourage reciprocal visits to these maritime landmarks. The creation of basic guidelines on the formation of Twinning arrangements between Lighthouses will aid the development of appropriate agreements in order to deliver benefits to both partner organisations.

# Discussion

In 2024, a memorandum of cooperation was signed between the Northern Lighthouse Board (Scotland UK), the Mull of Galloway Trust, and the Japan Coast Guard, along with the Tokokai, concerning the twinning of the Mull of Galloway Lighthouse and the Inubosaki Lighthouse. The two lighthouses have shared heritage though the Scottish Engineers who designed and built them.

The ENG Committee has been actively organizing events and developing standards related to the operation, maintenance, and technological aspects of lighthouses. This guideline aims to establish basic policies to enhance international visits and exchanges through lighthouses while promoting activities associated with them. It is also expected to increase public awareness and support for these efforts.

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to approve the proposal to develop a new guideline on Lighthouse Twinning.