

15.1 Disaster Recovery Fund – Draft Terms of Reference

IALA Disaster Recovery Fund

1. BACKGROUND

At its 75th session, the Council agreed to the establishment of a “IALA Disaster Recovery Fund” to be managed by the World-Wide Academy. The fund should be entirely funded by sponsorships.

There is no internationally agreed definition of a disaster, but a disaster is an unwanted incident with a severe impact such as injuries, loss of lives, assets, or disruption of service.

The Secretariat has put in place operational procedures on what to do in the event of a disaster, elaborating on what to consider, and which actions could be taken towards members and others who may be affected, but we do not have any dedicated funds for the purpose of assisting members fast to recover from disasters, and therefore the actions taken in the past have typically been an expression of sympathy and solidarity and offering some assistance where and when possible.

In the case of Ukraine, the actions taken by the secretariat have been a bit more substantial, and many members are considering how they can accommodate the request for assistance issued by our member in Ukraine.

Australia (AMSA) informed the Secretariat that they have decided to provide a sponsorship of AUS\$ 50.000 to the fund, aimed at assisting Ukraine to recover from its current situation. This would enable the Academy to take an active role in assisting Ukraine as much as possible.

The Secretariat undertook, as a Council 75 action item, to consider, with the WWA Board, how the National member of Ukraine could be best assisted and start the development of appropriate Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Disaster Recovery Fund, for consideration by the LAP and Council 76.

This work on the TOR has been agreed by the WWA Board the draft can be found in Annex 1 to this paper.

2. ACTION REQUESTED BY LAP

To consider the draft TOR for the WWA Disaster Recovery Fund and provide comments as found appropriate.



ANNEX 1

Draft Terms of Reference for the IALA Disaster Recovery Fund

1. PREAMBLE

The aim of IALA is to foster the safe, economic, and efficient movement of vessels, through improvement and harmonisation of Aids to Navigation (AtoN) worldwide and other appropriate means, for the benefit of the maritime community and the protection of the environment. While this aim always applies, it becomes even more urgent to provide support in times of natural disaster or manmade crisis.

Therefore, the Council in its 75th session decided to establish a Disaster Recovery Fund (DRF) to be managed by the World-Wide Academy (WWA) in order to support countries in need and help re-establishing safety of navigation in their region.

2. DEFINITION

A disaster, for the purpose of the DRF, is an extreme natural disaster such as major flooding, earthquake, tsunami or hurricanes or a man-made crisis majorly affecting safety of navigation, including existing AtoN infrastructure.

According to Art. 2 of the constitution IALA is secular and non-political and continues to do so when providing aid through its DRF.

3. THE ROLE OF THE WORLD-WIDE ACADEMY

The objectives of the WWA are among others to provide education, training, and capacity building to enhance the knowledge and expertise of personnel responsible for safety of navigation and the provision of marine AtoN services.

Since its inauguration in 2012, the WWA has built a worldwide network of contacts to coastal states and experts from around the world and build up expertise in carrying out capacity building missions worldwide. The WWA has developed a good understanding of how to prioritize its resources and how and where to provide assistance, which makes the WWA well-suited to manage the DRF.

For the sake of transparency, the following aspects among others should be taken into account in the decision-making process of when, how and where to use the resources of the DRF:

- Severity of the emergency or emergencies
- Damage to the existing AtoN-infrastructure
- Consequences for the safe and efficient movement of vessels, the maritime community, and the environment
- Means of the country affected to act without external support
- Efficiency of the measures proposed to be put in place

4. PROCEDURES

The assistance procedure could be initiated by IALA or a country in need of assistance. The beneficiary should contact the WWA, with information on the disaster, its effect on safety of navigation and their ability to provide AtoN services and the consequences for the safe and efficient movement of vessels, their region.



The WWA the makes contact with the beneficiary as soon as possible to discuss the situation, ensuring that all relevant information is obtained before deciding if, how, and when, aid through the DRF can be provided.

5. BUDGET

The budget of the DRF is based solely on voluntary contributions from members or third parties. A contributor may decide to use the contributions for a specific purpose such as a dedicated emergency or dedicated means of providing aid.

6. AUDIT

The DRF is subject to audit by the appointed auditors of IALA.

7. REPORTING

The WWA provides an annual report to the Council describing the activities and financial situation of the DRF.

Reporting to contributing sponsors shall be made in accordance with the terms agreed with each sponsor.