**IALA VTS Committee September 3-7, 2012**

**34th Session IALA**

**Agenda item x – Report on the 43rd session of the IMO STW Sub-Committee**

**Note from the Accredited representative of IALA to IMO**

According to the proposal from the VTS Committee at its 33th session, approved by Council 52 in December 2011, IALA submitted a document (STW 43/9) to the STW Sub-Committee proposing to develop guidance on training for masters and officers providing a more comprehensive knowledge of VTS functions, responsibilities and procedures, including material on VTS capabilities and services in accordance with IMO resolution A.857(20). Through its submission IALA offered its services to assist drafting the relevant guidance.

During the discussion at the STW Sub-Committee, the following views were expressed that:

.1 clarification was needed if the proposed guidance was to be stand-alone or included within part of part A of the STCW Code;

.2 there was no need for separate guidance, as training relating to VTS procedures would be included in the relevant model course; and

.3 IALA has developed relevant training guidance for VTS operators.

Finally, the Sub-Committee agreed that there was no need to develop guidance and the IALA proposal to support in training ship masters and officers to VTS was rejected. It is to be noted that some delegations that opposed the proposal were IALA National Members’ delegations.