Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-1) VTS43-10.2.8

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

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

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

Agenda item [[2]](#footnote-2) n.n

Technical Domain / Task Number 2 …………………………………

Author(s) / Submitter(s) Chairman, VTS Committee Working Group 3

Draft submission to the IMO Maritime Safety Committee concerning an update of MSC Circular 1065

# Summary

This document, within the annex, provides draft updates to IMO MSC/Circ.1065 on the IALA Standards for training and certification of Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) personnel.

## Purpose of the document

This document provides the VTS Committee with a draft input paper to the IMO Maritime Safety Committee requesting that they consider the draft amendments to MSC/Circ.1065 and take action as appropriate in terms of the publication of a revised MSC Circular.

## Related documents

IMO Resolution A.857(20), MSC/Circ.1065 and IALA Model Course V-103/5 on the revalidation process for VTS Qualification and Certification

# Background

Following the publication in June 2016 of IALA Model Course V-103/5 on the revalidation process for VTS qualification and certification it is necessary to update the IMO Maritime Safety Committee Circular MSC/Circ.1065. This paper provides a draft submission for the 99th session of the Maritime Safety Committee which sets out the background to the circular along with an associated discussion on the required updates to the circular.

# Discussion

A draft input paper to the 99th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee has been prepared which consists of a supporting document with a draft revised circular as an annex. Since the publication of the original circulars (MSC/Circ.952 which was subsequently superseded by MSC/Circ.1065) IALA has published Model Course V-103/5 in June 2016.

The MSC input paper sets the scene for the continued requirement for the circular and provides background information on IALA Model Course V-103/5 and its relationship/links to IALA Recommendation V-103, IMO Resolution A.857(20), and the STCW Convention.

The draft revisions were prepared following the receipt of informal advice from the IMO Secretariat and represent only minor changes to the content of MSC/Circ.1065. Changes have been proposed to the general structure of the circular to reduce the level of repetition and enhance the readability, usability and impact of the circular.

Some terms used within the circular are also not consistent with some of the terms used within IALA documentation. This reflects that, in certain circumstances, the IMO utilise different terminology such as ‘training institutes’ as opposed to ‘training organisations’ and IMO Resolution A.857(20) refers primarily to ‘VTS Operators’ whereas Recommendation V-103 refers to ‘VTS Personnel’.

Reference to ‘*the development, by the Organization, of additional provisions covering the training and certification of vessel traffic service personnel*’ has also been deleted as it is judged that there is no short term appetite by the IMO to develop such provisions. The likely next step in the development of such provisions will be the proposed revisions of IMO Resolution A.857(20) which will include updated provisions with respect to the training and certification of VTS personnel. These proposed revisions to IMO A.857(20) will also present an opportunity to rectify some of the issues of conflicting terminology and definitions that are now presenting themselves, especially related to VTS training.

# References

1. IMO Resolution A.857(20)
2. IMO MSC/Circ.1065
3. IALA Model Course V-103/5

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to:

1. Review and endorse the draft input paper to the IMO Maritime Safety Committee and submit it to the Council for approval.

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