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| From: ARM18 | VTS56-8.1.3  (ARM18-11.2.8) |
| To: MASS TF, ENG, VTS and DTEC committees | 18 April 2024 |

LIAISON NOTE - To seek opinion and input on the latest version of the IALA MASS Guideline

# INTRODUCTION

The ARM MASS Task Group has been working on a draft of the IALA MASS Guideline during ARM 18. The Group noted the considerable good work that had gone into the previous version (Output paper from ARM 16) and also noted that much of the content was written from the perspective of MASS operators/developers. The Group also noted that much of the content was now out of date. The Group also recognised the importance of ensuring the latest developments from the IMO and IHO are taken into consideration in the Guideline.

The Group used ARM 18 to develop a new framework and began to revise the document having identified that it should be primarily aimed at Coastal States while also being of interest to developers and operators. The Group also recognised that, because of the rapid developments in MASS, the document would best be positioned as a Guideline, noting that it will need to be updated regularly. As a result the Guideline should be predominantly conceptual, with technical detail to be provided in standards and recommendations at a later date by the relevant IALA committee.

The Group understands it does not have the necessary knowledge and expertise in key areas that must be a part of the Guideline and assistance from the DTEC, ENG and VTS is requested.

# ACTION REQUESTED

The MASS Task Force to note the contents of this liaison note.

The ARM Committee respectfully requests that the DTEC, VTS and ENG committees review the draft Guideline and provide input in the sections highlighted. We would greatly appreciate your collaboration and support in this endeavor.