

Agenda item 12 – Any other business

12.2 Co-operation with RNT Foundation

12.2-1 Possible MOU between IALA and RNT

Note by the Secretariat

1. Background

IALA was invited on 31st January 2014 by the US educational and scientific charity Resilient Navigation & Timing (RNT) Foundation to consider the appropriateness of a mutual exchange of corporate Membership, in the same way as the Foundation has exchanges with US based Institutes or Associations.

The RNT Foundation is chaired by the former USCG Councillor Dana A Goward and is eager to support navigation systems that are able to counter GNSS jamming and spoofing, and bring terrestrial augmentation for GNSS.

The RNT Foundation is very keen on having IALA seen as a supporter of its actions towards safer GNSS and “healthy navigation and timing systems”.

2. Interaction with RNT Foundation

IALA does not have the necessary mechanisms to exchange corporate memberships on a no cost basis.

It was therefore suggested having a MOU between the two organizations, as per the attached Annex.

3. Action

Council is requested to consider if it is appropriate that IALA enters into a MOU with an organization that is not of an international nature.



Mr. Dana A. Goward
Resilient Navigation & Timing
Foundation
4558 Shetland Green Rd
Alexandria, VA 22312

Mr. Gary Prosser
Secretary General
IALA/AISM

2/3/2014
Electronic Delivery

Re: Proposal for an MOU Between IALA and RNT Foundation

Mr. Prosser:

This is to propose a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Resilient Navigation and Timing Foundation, a US educational and scientific charity, and the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities for the purpose of pursuing mutual goals.

The RNT Foundation's primary goals are:

- Educating the public and political leaders about the importance of navigation and timing, as well as the vulnerabilities of existing systems,
- Supporting stronger laws and better enforcement to counter GNSS jamming and spoofing, and
- A strong, difficult-to-disrupt, terrestrial augmentation system to GNSS for every nation.

As to the last goal, we are system-agnostic, but do observe that the US and many other countries have decided eLoran is a wide area augmentation system that should be implemented. We support those decisions and are eager to support governments' implementation however we are able.

We also believe that there is room in a "healthy navigation and timing eco-system" for numerous technologies, in addition to GNSS and eLoran, especially if they have differing failure modes and fill different needs. Locata, a company that provides local positioning systems, for example, is a member of our foundation and a big supporter.

We also share (at least aspirationally) IALA's international focus. At present we are focusing most of our efforts in the United States as it has yet to implement a terrestrial augment to GNSS, and because of its status as the world's largest economy and a technology leader. Assisting other nations as we are able is another of our goals, and we hope to increase our international efforts. For example, we plan to participate in both the RPNT Forum and the ENC GNSS 2014 conference in Rotterdam in April. I will be presenting two papers at the ENC conference on policies and political processes to improve PNT resilience.

I think that both our organizations will find an MOU beneficial.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dana A. Goward".

Dana A. Goward
President & Executive Director