

Agenda item 12 – IALA World-Wide Academy**12.3. Sponsorship opportunities***12.3.1 - Proposal for sponsoring specific actions*Note by the Academy**Introduction**

The IALA World Wide Academy (The Academy) is the vehicle by which IALA delivers training and capacity building to national Authorities responsible for the provision of marine aids to navigation, including vessel traffic services. It commenced operations in January 2012. Although an integral part of IALA, The Academy is entirely independently funded. Its creation and subsequent increasing activity were possible thanks to generous direct financial sponsorship offered by the International Foundation for Aids to Navigation (IFAN) and the French Government and more recently by the Government of the Republic of Korea. Numerous other Member States and organisations have provided very generous in-kind support.

Discussion

The Council is aware that at present the Academy budget is dependent principally on sponsorship from a few main donors. Given the level of increased activity, the continuity of the Academy would be threatened if one of these sponsors withdrew its financial support for any reason. Offers to provide sponsorship from other sources such as Members or external Organisations are always welcome and the IALA Secretary-General and the Dean of the Academy will maintain their efforts to attract such generosity.

However, there is the potential for an alternative method for Members and Organisations to support specific Academy actions, not only through in-kind support as is done today, but also through direct financial contributions. Indeed the Council will understand that while it is not a simple matter to attract sponsorship for a general concept such as The Academy; it might be easier to convince such donors to support directly the cost of specific events. Examples of such sponsorship are:

- Direct sponsorship by IALA Industrial Members who have twice funded the participation of five African AtoN managers to IALA Conferences in Cape Town and A Coruña at 20.000 € each time.
- During a recent visit to Côte d'Ivoire, The Academy was informed that two years ago the Académie Régionale des Sciences et Techniques de la Mer (a training establishment affiliated with WMU and dependant on the Maritime Organisation of

Western and Central Africa (MOWCA)) was provided by the IMO with a very modern and sophisticated multi-function simulator manufactured by TRANSAS. This simulator includes a function for training VTS operators, but at present there is no instructor available to use it for that function. However it is known that there is a huge demand for training VTS operators in Africa. Therefore a train- the- trainer programme for VTS instructors would be very beneficial for the region. This could be achieved either by sending future instructors somewhere else to be trained, or by sending a qualified trainer to Abidjan. The total cost of such a project is estimated to be 50.000 €.

- A third example is scholarship funding for Participants on the now numerous accredited training courses delivered around the world. These are for VTS operators and other functions, and for both level 1 and level 2 aids to navigation training courses. The estimated cost for a particular course is easy to establish and a specific sponsor might offer to fund 1 or more participants on such a course.

Proposal

The idea is for The Academy Secretariat to develop and publish a costed list of possible sponsorship events. Members and the Representatives of Organisations would therefore be able to consider concrete projects that they could select and finance. This could be either directly from their own agency or through their national organisation in charge of technical assistance. Such a list could be part of the IALA Council documents, or/and be displayed on a dedicated page of the IALA website.

The aim of this approach is for The Academy to be more proactive by proposing specific costed projects for sponsorship, rather than waiting for general sponsorship offers. Potential sponsors are more likely to be convinced when they know exactly what their funds would be used for. This discussion paper is designed to receive feedback from the Council on the proposal itself, and to request the distinguished Councillors to indicate their views on what details should be provided to enable them to start their internal processes for getting the necessary budgetary approval for a selected capacity building or training activity.

Council is requested to:

The Council is requested to consider this document and approve it.