

IALA COUNCIL
61st Session

December 8-11, 2015
Dakar
Senegal

Agenda item 13 – International

13.3 Arctic

13.3.1 Background information

Note by the Secretariat

1. Meeting of 2010 at IALA HQ

Between 10 and 12 February 2010 delegates from Canada, Denmark, Norway, Russia, and the United States as well as the International Hydrographic Organization met at IALA headquarters in France to discuss the marking of polar traffic routes. IALA delegates from five of the Arctic states and the chairs of IALA's technical committees presented their perspectives on the current challenges in the Arctic.

The result was advised by IALA to IMO MSC 87 as paper MSC87/INF.15. This paper concludes with the following words.

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the outcome of the meeting between the said nations and IALA held from 10 to 12 February 2010;

AGREE that it is necessary to adopt a harmonised approach in addressing current and future risk, as described above, in Arctic waters;

ENVISION that the said nations should, in Arctic waters, take the opportunity to:

- initiate the establishment of a common Arctic ship reporting and data sharing system;
- develop a common approach to marine traffic awareness and monitoring;
- move towards a single, harmonised system of marine aids to navigation;
- anticipate and mitigate risk to maritime traffic and the marine environment;

RECOMMEND that, for Arctic waters, IALA support the said nations in relation to:

- enhancing marine traffic awareness and providing a forum for those establishing ship reporting and data sharing systems;
- the marking of polar routes and development of virtual aids to navigation;
- the application of risk management methodology; and
- the importance of improving hydrographic services in the region.

2. The PAME Working Group of the Arctic Council

Briefing to PAME II-2013

IALA was invited by the PAME Working Group of the Arctic Council to participate in its PAME II-2013 meeting in Rostov-on-Don, 24-26 September 2013.

The then Secretary-General made arrangements to attend, but finally was not able to do so and so sent a four page briefing note to the meeting. This described IALA's work, its activity related to the Arctic, IALANET, and IWRAP.

Presentation by IALA to PAME I-2014

IALA was invited to make a presentation at PAME I-2014 in Girdwood, Alaska, 11-13 February 2014. The DSG made a presentation and the result of the meeting was reported to IALA Council session 57.

Input paper from IALA to PAME II-2014

As a result of the presentation at PAME I-2014, IALA was invited to submit an input paper to PAME II-2014 "elaborating upon opportunities for collaboration in areas of common interest."

In the paper to PAME II-2014, IALA identified two activities that could fall under areas of common interest; Vessel tracking and services for safety of navigation and e-Navigation maritime services from shore in the Arctic.

The record of decisions of the meeting includes the following.

"PAME thanks IALA for its paper on "Possible Cooperation Between PAME and IALA". PAME member governments discussed the paper at length and positively responded to the idea of closer cooperation. PAME invites member governments to submit their views to PAME I-2015 on the specific areas of proposed cooperation identified in the IALA paper."

PAME II-2015 meeting

The Record of Decisions of the PAME II-2015 meeting (15-17 September, Norway) noted that *"PAME invites the USA to submit to PAME I-2016 a proposed draft project plan for collaboration between PAME and IALA, taking into account exchanges between the two bodies to date."*

3. Proposed IALA-IHO Seminar on Arctic Navigation

Encourage by informal advice from national members of IALA with Arctic interests, the Secretariat has explored with IHO the concept of conducting a Seminar on Arctic navigation. A date no earlier than the second half of 2016 is envisaged, with the location being IALA HQ.

The purpose, organisation, and agenda are proposed in input paper C61-13.2.

The IHO President contributed some of the content of this draft.

4. Action

The Councillor for the USA will brief Council on the developments in PAME.

Council is asked to **APPROVE** the holding of an IALA-IHO Seminar on Arctic Navigation, with arrangements to be made by the Secretariat in cooperation with IHO.