

## IALA COUNCIL 62<sup>nd</sup> session



**21-24 June 2016**  
**Lisbon**  
**Portugal**

### 14 – INTERNATIONAL

#### 14.1 - IMO

#### IMO MSC 96 (11 May to 20 May 2016)

Report by the Secretariat

#### 1. MSC96

The 96<sup>th</sup> session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) was held at IMO HQ from Wednesday 10 May to Friday 20 May. The Chairman of the meeting was Mr Brad Groves of Australia, who is also the IALA Councillor for Australia. The draft agenda and work programme as published before the meeting was adopted.

The IALA delegation to the meeting was Deputy Secretary-General, Michael Card, in the first week, and Secretary General Francis Zachariae in the second week. The IALA WWA Dean Jean-Charles Leclair and E-NAV chairman Omar Frits Eriksson attended last two days, while Mahdi Al Mosawi attended the whole session.

#### 2. MATTERS OF MOST INTEREST TO IALA'S WORK WERE E-NAVIGATION AND MARITIME SERVICE PORTFOLIOS (MSPS)

##### 2.1 Action points from the Sub-Committee NCSR 3 to the committee:

- 1 Subject to formal promulgation as required under paragraph 2.1.3.1 of the annex to resolution A.1046(27), recognize the Galileo Global Navigation Satellite System as a component of the World-Wide Radionavigation System, and instruct the Secretariat to prepare and issue the associated SN circular.
- 2 Encourage Member Governments and observer organizations to promote the availability of the industry Guidance as widely as possible, and agree that no further action has to be taken by the Sub-Committee with regard to the industry Guidance.
- 3 Endorse the view of the Sub-Committee that Iridium could be incorporated into the GMDSS subject to compliance with outstanding issues, with the understanding that the Sub-Committee, based on the evaluation reports from IMSO, would advise the Committee on final recognition.
- 4 Clarify the scope of application of the performance standards for ship-borne GMDSS equipment to accommodate additional providers of GMDSS satellite services.

#### 3. E-NAVIGATION – NEW OUTPUT ON HARMONIZED MARITIME SERVICE PORTFOLIOS

The Committee considered document MSC 96/23/7 (Australia et al.), proposing a new output on e-navigation to define and harmonize the format and structure of MSPs and to provide guidance on the appropriate communication channels used for the electronic exchange of information between shore and ship, including any necessary coordination mechanisms and transitional arrangements that may be required, and agreed to include in the post-biennial agenda of the Committee an output on "Develop guidance on definition and harmonization of the format and structure of Maritime Service



Portfolios (MSPs)", with two sessions needed to complete the item, assigning the NCSR Sub-Committee as the coordinating organ.

The Committee expressed appreciation for the offer made by IALA in document MSC 96/23/10, commenting on document MSC 96/23/7, to contribute to the coordination of the work related to the development of MSPs. The Committee welcomed any future input from other international organizations to this work, and agreed to keep the coordination of this subject under the scope of the Organization, through the NCSR Sub-Committee.

Regarding the proposal, included in document MSC 96/23/7, to activate the IMO-IHO Harmonization Group on Data Modelling (HGDM) to work on this output, the Committee recalled that MSC 90 had established this group, including its terms of reference, but this group had never been formalized. The Committee, taking into account the decision to include the output in the post-biennial agenda, agreed to invite IHO to submit a proposal to the Committee and/or to NCSR to activate the IMO-IHO Harmonization Group on Data Modelling (HGDM), to work on this issue and include the modalities, e.g. venue and frequency for consideration at a later session of the Committee.

#### **4. PROGRESS MADE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF VHF DATA EXCHANGE SYSTEM (VDES)**

The Committee noted with appreciation the information contained in document MSC 96/INF.10 (IALA), informing on the progress made in the development of the VHF Data Exchange System (VDES).

##### **4.1 Proposal for a new output on the application of IRNSS in the maritime field**

The Committee considered document MSC 96/23/8 (India), proposing a new output to recognize the satellite navigation system "Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS)" as a future component of the World-Wide Radionavigation System (WWRNS) and to develop performance standards for shipborne IRNSS receiver equipment, and agreed to include in the post-biennial agenda of the Committee an output on "Application of the 'Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS)' in the maritime field and development of performance standards for shipborne IRNSS receiver equipment", with two sessions needed to complete the item, assigning the NCSR Sub-Committee as the coordinating organ.

##### **4.2 Proposal for a new output for amendments to SOLAS chapter IV to accommodate additional mobile satellite systems recognised for use in the GMDSS**

The Committee considered document (MSC 96/23/10) (United States), proposing to amend SOLAS chapter IV and certain other related documents, to accommodate new mobile satellite systems recognised for use in the GMDSS, and agreed to include an output on "Review SOLAS chapters IV and appendix (Certificates: Forms P, R and C) to accommodate additional mobile satellite systems", in the 2016-2017 biennial agenda of the NCSR Sub-Committee and the provisional agenda for NCSR 4, with a target completion year of 2017.

Notwithstanding the heavy work load of the agenda of the NCSR Sub-Committee, the Committee agreed to include the new output as a priority for NCSR 4, and invited Member States and international organisations to streamline the proposals as much as possible to make the work of the NCSR Sub-Committee manageable, i.e. focusing on SOLAS amendments but not consequential amendments to related instruments.

The Committee further agreed, in accordance with MSC.1/Circ.1481 and MSC.1/Circ.1500, that:

- 1 The amendments to be developed should not amend the scope of application of SOLAS chapter IV and 1988 Protocol;
- 2 The instrument to be amended is the 1974 SOLAS Convention (i.e. SOLAS chapter IV and appendix (1988 Protocol) Certificates (Forms P, R and C)); and
- 3 The amendments to be developed should enter into force on 1 January 2020, provided that they are adopted before 1 July 2018.



The delegation of the United Arab Emirates recalled that it had submitted a proposal to MSC 88 for the evaluation of the Thuraya Satellite System as a GMDSS service provider as a regional system, however, not much progress has been achieved due to various reasons. One of the main reasons had been that the relevant regulations of SOLAS chapter IV and related documents do not take into account additional GMDSS satellite service providers. Therefore, the United Arab Emirates expressed the opinion that the required amendments should take place as soon as possible.

## **5. URGENT MATTERS EMANATING FROM THE THIRD SESSION OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**

The Committee considered urgent matters emanating from the third session of the Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR) (NCSR 3/29 and MSC 96/14) and took action as indicated hereunder.

### **5.1 Recognition of Galileo as a component of the WWRNS**

Having noted that formal promulgation as required under paragraph 2.2.2 of the annex to Resolution A.1046(27) had been received, the Committee recognised the Galileo Global Navigation Satellite System as a component of the World-Wide Radionavigation System.

### **5.2 Recognition of Iridium mobile satellite system as a GMDSS service provider**

The Committee endorsed the view of the Sub-Committee that Iridium could be incorporated into the GMDSS, subject to compliance with outstanding issues, as set out in annex 1 to document NCSR 3/WP.5, with the understanding that the Sub-Committee, based on the evaluation reports from IMSO, would advise the Committee in future on recognition, when the issues identified have been complied with.

### **5.3 Performance standards for shipborne GMDSS equipment to accommodate additional providers of GMDSS satellite services**

The Committee considered the scope of application of the performance standards for ship-borne GMDSS equipment to accommodate additional providers of GMDSS satellite services. Having noted that the majority of the delegations who spoke supported the view that the new performance standards should be generic, the Committee agreed that these performance standards should be applicable to all new equipment, to be approved, of all providers after the effective date. In this context, it was noted that a transition period would be required for equipment already under development.

## **6. THE COUNCIL IS REQUESTED TO**

**Note** the report.