

IALA COUNCIL
64th session



13-16 June 2017
Incheon
Republic of Korea

13 – INTERNATIONAL

13.8 – APHoMSA

13.8.1 – 18th APHoMSA session, 22-24 March 2017

Report by the Secretariat

1. APHOMSA

The Asia-Pacific Heads of Maritime Safety Agencies held its 18th session in Langkawi, Malaysia from 22 – 24 March 2017. The meeting was opened by the Honourable Minister of Transport Dato’ Sri Liow Tiong Lai and was chaired by the Director General of Marine Department Malaysia, Dato’ Haji Baharin Abdul Hamid.

In general the APHoMSA is a very interesting forum established in 1996. The Australian Maritime Safety Authority is providing the Secretariat for the meetings. IALA is one of 8 standing observer organisations.

2. REGIONAL COOPERATION

The secretariat of APHoMSA provided an updated list of all regional cooperation activities in the Asia-Pacific region. The list and the comments to the list showed clearly the value of the IALA World-Wide Academy in this region as well as the “delivering as one” concept together with the sister organisations IMO and IHO.

The list is updated in March and September every year and is available for viewing and reference by APHoMSA members on the website www.aphomsa.org.

IALA provided a paper introduced by the Dean. The paper had the following conclusion:

IALA’s aim of becoming an Inter-Governmental Organisation is well on track. It has clear goals to achieve before its 21st Conference in 2026. These include making the remaining 18 target States in the Asia-Pacific region more aware of their international obligations under SOLAS Chapter V Regulations 12 and 13; conducting technical missions and reviews in those States, and facilitating the development of a number of VTS and AtoN training hubs in the APHoMSA region.

IALA’s capacity building and training activity is delivered by the IALA World-Wide Academy. Missions and follow-up reviews are delivered free of charge to target States.

Close liaison with the IMO and IHO under the United Nations banner of “delivering as one” and with organisations such as LINZ and SPC serve to facilitate an effective delivery of capacity building and training, particularly to the PICT (Pacific Island Countries and Territories).

The availability of a Level 1 aids to navigation manager distance learning programme to APHoMSA members is considered to be an effective method of gaining formal certification whilst building aids to navigation management capacity.



3. MAIN OBSERVATIONS FROM THE MEETING

1. Many APHoMSA states expressed their gratitude to IALA, as well as the IMO, for our support to them.
2. Vanuatu and Timor Leste were accepted as full members of APHoMSA.
3. SPC described their activities in the region and IALA thanked SPC for their successful appointment of the AtoN Adviser, and said that we are beginning to see evidence of progress in terms of raised awareness and capacity, thanks to his activities.
4. Korea invited all APHoMSA members to attend the e-Navigation Underway Asia Pacific Conference in June 2017 (sponsored by Korea).
5. The IALA intervention was well received. Kiribati, Vanuatu, Cook Islands Solomon Islands, as well as Fiji thanked IALA for the assistance given so far. Furthermore PNG acknowledged the work of IALA in the region. All Recommendations given in IALA input paper were adopted.
6. Of interest to the WWA, Malaysia submitted a paper on measures adopted for issuing certificate of competency for seafarers and China submitted a paper on promoting the application of electronic certificates.

4. THE COUNCIL IS REQUESTED TO

Note the report.