

## **11 – TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES**

### **11.4 – VTS**

#### **Updates to IALA VTS documentation post adoption of the revised IMO Resolution on Vessel Traffic Services**

##### **INTRODUCTION**

A top-level review has been conducted to assess the implications of the IMO adoption of a new Resolution providing “Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services” on existing IALA VTS documentation.

##### **DISCUSSION**

The accompanying spreadsheet lists all of the documents on the “*IALA Reference List of IALA Documentation relating to VTS Edition 1.1 June 2019*” and summarises the outcome of this review. It is emphasised that this review was based solely on the need for changes that will be required to ensure that terminology and content is consistent with the new resolution and not on any other assessment of the currency of each document.

The proposed revision to IMO Resolution A.857(20) mainly clarifies and simplifies existing text and formalises custom and practice that has developed since the publication of the current Resolution in 1997. The one exception to this relates to Types of Service where the current Resolution continues to be misinterpreted by a number of authorities despite IALA guidance provided; this is now addressed in the proposed new draft IMO Resolution. If adopted, some authorities may require to make changes to the legal basis of a VTS and it will certainly require changes in the way a VTS is promulgated in nautical publications.

The review identifies that the only document where the introduction of the new Resolution will require a significant change is “*Guideline 1089 - Provision of VTS - INS, TOS & NAS Ed 1 Dec 2012*”. To ensure that Governments, Competent authorities and VTS providers have the appropriate guidance to implement any changes required following IMO adoption, an updated version of Guideline 1089 needs to be approved by Council and ready for immediate promulgation on adoption by IMO of the updated Resolution (currently anticipated to be Nov 2021). A new task to update this document is, therefore, urgently required with a target date for completion by Spring 2021 (VTS50).

Seven other documents have been identified which should be updated early after adoption. Of these, two only require transposition of terms such as “VTS Provider” in place of “VTS Authority” but the remaining five (marked with a red cross in the annex to this paper) will require more extensive textual amendment. Provision will need to be made to include this work for those documents not already identified for review as a current task.



The third priority column identifies a number of documents where the implications of the introduction of the new Resolution will have little impact on the main purpose of the document and most of these only require minor changes to adopt the new terminology (except for those documents that are listed under “In normal course” but are already on the current task list e.g “*G1141 - Operational Procedures for VTS Ed1 - Dec2018*”).

Whilst there may be lower priority for documents only requiring changes to adopt new terminology, a proliferation of documents that are clearly out-of-date may reflect adversely on IALA. It is for consideration that Council give approval for documents in this category to be updated as a secretarial action rather than requiring revision through the normal committee and Council process.

#### **THE COUNCIL IS REQUESTED TO**

1. Approve the addition of a new task to update Guideline 1089 with completion at VTS50.
2. Note that further documents may require updating early after adoption of the new Resolution.
3. Authorise a process of secretarial amendment, following adoption of the new resolution to documents that only require changes to incorporate the new terminology.

Enclosure: Spreadsheet - IALA Documentation Review post adoption of revised IMO Resolution on Vessel Traffic Services