

IALA COUNCIL
71st session



3 and 4 June 2020
Video conference

13 – INTERNATIONAL

13.1 – IMO

13.1.1 – Report on NCSR 7

Note by the Secretariat

INTRODUCTION

The seventh session of the IMO NCSR Sub-Committee was held at IMO HQ London from 15th to 24th January 2020, chaired by Mr Ringo Lakeman (Netherlands), supported by the vice-chair, Mr Nigel Clifford (New Zealand).

IALA had submitted two papers to this meeting:

- NCSR 7/7 - Draft Assembly resolution on revision of the guideline for VTS (Australia..., and IALA)
- NCSR 7-INF.6 - 3rd Generation partnership project (3GPP) in the maritime domain (IALA)

Three Working Groups (on Navigation, Communications and SAR), the Experts Group on Ships' Routeing and a Drafting Group were established for the meeting.

NAVIGATION WORKING GROUP MATTERS

Revision of the Guidelines for vessel traffic services - Resolution A.857(20)

The paper NCSR 7/7 on the revision of the Guidelines for vessel traffic services (Resolution A.857(20)) was presented by IALA in the plenary of the Sub-Committee. The paper was the result of extensive coordination by IALA and work of the VTS Committee, a correspondence group and dedicated seminar.

All the Member States and Non-Governmental Organisations who spoke supported the draft revision. Of note, not all delegations who wished to speak could do so such was the level of interest in the paper.

The Sub-Committee also considered paper NCSR 7/7/1 (submitted by ICS and BIMCO) proposing, inter alia, the deletion of a paragraph (4.4) related to the provision of VTS beyond the territorial sea. The majority of delegations who spoke supported the retention of paragraph 4.4. In the introductory IALA intervention, a suggestion was made that the paragraph should be retained but may be refined to make its intent and meaning clearer which formed the general term of reference for the Navigation Working Group when considering the matter of paragraph 4.4.

The IMO Legal Division gave a preliminary view that paragraph 4.4 was consistent with both SOLAS and UNCLOS. During the Navigation Working Group, minor modifications were made the paragraph 4.4 which quickly resulted in consensus being achieved.

The revised Guidelines, subject to minor text modifications, were approved by the Sub-Committee to be sent to the Maritime Safety Committee for approval and subsequent adoption by the Assembly. The Sub-Committee agreed that no particular involvement of the Legal Committee or the Marine Environment Protection Committee would be required.



Maritime Service

The meeting considered the input paper (NCSR 7/8) provided by the Secretariat on the outcome of an informal meeting of the Member States and International Organizations acting as domain coordinating bodies for the further development of descriptions of Maritime Service in the context of e-Navigation, held at IALA HQ, on 9 October 2019.

Noting the target completion year for the current output being 2021, the Group agreed that in order to progress the harmonized development of MS descriptions further, overarching coordination meetings for sharing experiences and reporting progress within the relevant domain coordinating bodies should continue.

The Sub-Committee invited parties to progress the work to update the e-Navigation Strategy Implementation Plan intersectionally and present a mature draft to a future session of the Sub-Committee.

COMMUNICATION WORKING GROUP MATTERS

Technical standardization for public mobile networks in the context of maritime safety

IALA submitted the information paper with respect to developments within 3GPP that could support the maritime domain.

IALA emphasized the need to ensure the maritime community as a whole are catered for in the ongoing 5G standardization work of the 3GPP, and the Member States and International Organizations need to engage further in this work.

The meeting noted the discussions at IMO ITU EG 15 on technical standardization and invited IALA to keep IMO informed of future developments. And after consideration, IMO invited the interested Member States and international organizations to submit relevant proposal to the next EG meeting in order to start deliberations on this matter.

AMRD

CIRM submitted a paper (NCSR 7/12/5) advising on issues related MOB-AIS devices in new Recommendation ITU-R M. 2135-0 on Technical characteristics of AMRD operating in the frequency band 156-162.05 MHz and proposing to advise ITU-R that MOB-AIS devices should not be considered as AMRD as this could result in these devices not being permitted to use the AIS1 and AIS2 channels. And the group recalled the discussion of NCSR 6 on this issue that MOB Class M and Mobile AtoN should be considered as Group A AMRD and consequently, the Sub-Committee agreed that no further action was required.

OTHER MATTERS

Ships Routing Expert Group

IALA participated in the Ships Routing Working Group during NCSR7. The Expert Group had a lower than usual volume of work consisting of four proposals. One proposal, submitted by Australia, utilised IWRAP Mk11 to present the key results of the risk assessment as well as including AtoN provision within the proposal.

THE COUNCIL IS REQUESTED TO

Note the information provided.