

**IALA COUNCIL**  
**72<sup>nd</sup> session**



**8-10 December 2020**  
**Video Conference**

**8.4 LEGAL ADVISORY PANEL**

***8.4.4 – IALA Risk Register***

**8.4.4 Introductory note to IALA Risk Register**

Note by the Secretariat

**1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This document provides the Council with a briefing on the current IALA Risk Register, which was reviewed by the LAP on 30 September 2020. A copy of the Register is attached.

**2. BACKGROUND**

LAP first prepared a *List of IALA's Main Activities and Associated Risks* in May 2007. The risks were (and remain) for the most part of a legal/liability nature. The document has since been regularly reviewed by the LAP in line with its agreed terms of reference, updated and enhanced as necessary in line with best practice and passed to Council for information. Five levels of risk are shown in the register: very high, high, medium, low and very low. The format of the Register follows internationally recognized standards including those of the Federation of European Risk Management Associations (FERMA).

**3. DETAIL**

Risk management is a central part of any organisation's strategic management. It is the process whereby an organisation methodically identifies and addresses the risks attaching to its functions and the achievement of its objectives.

Good corporate governance requires that organisations adopt a methodical approach to risk management which:

- *protects the interests of their stakeholders;*
- *protects the professional reputation or public perception of the organisation;*
- *ensures that the Board of Directors (in IALA's case the Council) discharges its duties to direct agreed strategy and monitor performance of the organisation*
- *provides assurance to the organisation's governing body (in IALA's case its General Assembly) that risk is being appropriately managed; and*
- *ensures that internal management controls are in place, are performing adequately to facilitate the achievement of the organisation's objectives and enhanced where necessary;*

The risks facing an organisation and its operations can result from factors both external and internal to the organisation. Risks are often categorised or grouped into types of risk such as strategic, financial, operational and hazard, as recommended by FERMA. The IALA Risk Register adopts this method of categorisation.

The IALA risk management process follows a recognized approach as shown in the Risk Register. The process:

- describes each risk which has been identified, and its various aspects;
- sets out the consequences for IALA of the risk being realized;



- analyses and estimates the probability and impact of the risk being realized (against set criteria shown at the end of the Register) prior to any internal controls or treatment being applied, often described as 'the raw risk';
- considers how the risk is currently mitigated;
- re-assesses the risk in terms of probability and impact in the light of those internal controls being applied (against the same criteria), the result of which is often described as the 'residual risk';
- considers whether any additional controls are required to mitigate the risk further; and
- assigns ownership at a high level for each risk to an individual or body within the organization. Accountability helps to ensure that 'ownership' of the risk is recognised and appropriate management resources are allocated accordingly.

The use of arrows against each risk on the Register (other than any new risks) shows whether the level of risk is rising, falling or static. Shaded arrows indicate a change since the last report.

The results of this process show that IALA has few residual risks, which are greater than 'low' or 'medium'.

The overall level of risk faced by the organization is assessed as static/falling.

#### **THE COUNCIL IS INVITED TO**

**Note this report and the accompanying Risk Register.**