

IALA COUNCIL 74th session



13-17 December 2021
IALA Headquarters

8 – Strategy and Policy

8.4 The General Assembly

Note by the Secretariat

1 BACKGROUND

The General Assembly shall generally be convened every four years and shall, where possible be convened during the same period and at the same location as a Conference, but in any case, must be held no earlier than June of the General Assembly year. The 14th General Assembly is planned to be held in Rio de Janeiro on 3 June 2023.

All members are entitled to attend the General Assembly and are responsible for their own travelling and accommodation expenses should they choose to attend. The Secretary-General is authorized to invite, on behalf of the Council, any expert or any representatives of a non-member government or of an organization to participate as an observer at the General Assembly.

The General Assembly is to be prepared and organised by the Secretary-General using the resources of the Secretariat and those other resources as agreed in writing with the National member hosting the General Assembly.

Six months before (3 December 2022) the opening of the ordinary General Assembly the Secretariat shall invite National members to submit proposals that they wish to discuss at the General Assembly. These will be received by the Secretariat for the next two months.

Four months before (3 February 2023) the opening of the ordinary General Assembly, submitted proposals together with those prepared by the Council shall be circulated to all National members, who shall be invited to forward their comments to the Secretariat within two months. After this date no proposals shall normally be accepted.

All final papers, including the provisional agenda but excluding any amending or alternative proposals, shall be circulated to National members at least two months before (3 April 2023) the opening of the ordinary General Assembly.

The provisional agenda for an ordinary session of the General Assembly shall be prepared by the Secretariat for approval by the Council and shall normally include:

- Approval of the Agenda.
- Report of the President/Secretary-General.
- Finance Report.
- Approval of amendments to the Constitution.
- Approval of standards and the Strategic Vision.
- Consideration of proposals received from members.
- Any other business.
- Election of the Council.



2 DISCUSSION

As seen from the provisional agenda some points are standard points, but there are several points that need to be prepared well in advance of the General Assembly:

- Approval of amendments to the Constitution.
- Approval of standards and the Strategic Vision.
- Election of the Council.

Approval of amendments to the Constitution

Proposals for amendments to the Constitution are normally prepared by the Legal Advisory Panel (LAP). LAP has this point as a standard agenda point at each meeting of the panel. So far, no changes have been proposed, but LAP is expected to finalize this point at their meeting in September/November 2022 for Council to agree on the proposal at their meeting in December 2022.

The Secretariat is in the process of bringing the Constitution in line with the Style Guide, but these changes are all of an editorial nature.

Approval of standards and the Strategic Vision

In the Constitution (Article 7.1) it is mentioned that the General Assembly decides the overall policy of IALA and approves IALA standards. Specifically in recommendation R1001 The IALA Maritime Buoyage System it is mentioned that changes to the recommendation requires General Assembly approval.

The Secretariat has made the following plan to ensure that changes can be agreed at the latest at C76 in December 2022:

Organ and Date	Activity	Comment
Committees 2/2 2021	Reviews the standards and MBS	
SDG Council 74 2/2 2021	Review the Strategic Vision documents	Strategy Drafting Group
PAP 43 and LAP 23 1/2 2022	Reviews and advice on revised draft standards and MBS	
Committees 1/2 2022	Complete the revised draft standards and MBS	
SDG Council 75 1/2 2022	Finalizes the Strategic Vision documents	
PAP 44 2/2 2022	Finalizes the revised draft standards and MBS for Council 76 approval	
Council 76 2/2 2022	Approval of the revised Strategic Vision, standards, and MBS to go to the General Assembly	
General Assembly 1/2 2023	Approve the revised Strategic Vision, standards, and MBS	

It is not anticipated that the Strategic Vision requires major changes but will be updated to meet the new challenges and opportunities. This work will be stated at the meeting of the Strategy Drafting Group in December 2021 and approved at C76 in December 2022.



Election of the Council

It is noted that considering the change of status of IALA there is a growing interest in being a member of the Council and more candidates than available seats in Council can be expected for the election in 2023.

The election at the Conference in Korea was made manually and took unacceptably long time compared to the time available for the General Assembly. It is therefore necessary to find an on-line system for the election process. The Secretariat has started this work in cooperation with the host in Brazil.

3 THE COUNCIL IS INVITED TO

Note the information provided in this document and provide comments and suggestions.