

IALA COUNCIL
77th session



28 May 2023
Rio de Janeiro
Brazil

14 – Conferences, Symposia and other activities

14.2 - General Assembly 2023

14.2 Preparations

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 have invited National members to submit proposals that they wish to discuss at the General Assembly.

The Secretary-General has also invited National members to declare their candidacy for the Council, according to Article 8 of the Constitution six months before the opening of the General Assembly.

Four months before (3 February 2023) the opening of the ordinary General Assembly, submitted proposals together with those prepared by the Council have been circulated to all National members, who was invited to forward their comments to the Secretariat within two months.

All final papers, including the provisional agenda but excluding any amending or alternative proposals, are circulated to National members two months before 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 has been 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. At agenda point 10.1.2 Review of the Basic documents, the Secretariat has proposed a change to the Constitutions article 7.3, bullet 2. This change is proposed to make sure that Countries with more than one National member has only one vote at the election of the Council. It is already mentioned in Article 8.1, that only one National member from any country may be elected to the Council.

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:

Organ and Date	Activity	Comment
Committees 2/2 2021	Reviews the standards and MBS	Done
SDG Council 74 2/2 2021	Review the Strategic Vision documents	Strategy Drafting Group Done
PAP 43 and LAP 23 1/2 2022	Reviews and advice on revised draft standards and MBS	Done
Committees 1/2 2022	Complete the revised draft standards and MBS	Done
SDG Council 75 1/2 2022	Finalizes the Strategic Vision documents	Done
PAP 47 2/2 2022	Finalizes the revised draft standards and MBS for Council 76 approval	Done
Council 76 2/2 2022	Approval of the revised Strategic Vision, standards, and MBS to go to the General Assembly	Done
General Assembly 14 1/2 2023	Approve the revised Strategic Vision, standards, and MBS	

The Strategic Vision has been updated by the Strategy Drafting Group in 2022 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 have been received 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. The host has therefore arranged for an electronic voting system. This system was demonstrated at C76, and the procedures have been agreed by Council by correspondence. Only China and Singapore gave comments to the procedures that have been incorporated in the latest version.

The Secretary-General will give more general information at C77 for the procedures and conduct of the General Assembly convened on 3 June 2023.

3 THE COUNCIL IS INVITED TO

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