**Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-1)** PAP42-6.1.5.3

**Input paper for the following Committee(s):** **Purpose of paper:**

(Select as appropriate)

ARM  ENG  PAP  Input

ENAV VTS  Information

**Agenda item** [[2]](#footnote-2) 6.1.5

**Technical domain/ Task number** 2 N/A..…………………………

**Author(s)/Submitter(s)** MASS Task Force………

MASS TAsk Force Findings[[3]](#footnote-3)

# Summary

Following the initial meeting of the MASS Task Force, as input to PAP, a summary of findings are provided below.

# Discussion

* + 1. Scope of submission to MSC

The work on the preparation of the Regulatory Scoping Exercise (RSE) has been concluded within the IMO. The next stage is for interested Member States to propose new work outputs for IMO organs to continue the development of MASS related topics. Some outputs have already been made to the MSC with respect to the development of a MASS Code and a Guideline for MASS.

The Task Force considered that it was important to establish common terminology for use in MASS and to review the levels of automation following the conclusion of the RSE. It was suggested that, where possible, terminology should be consistent with that used in other sectors, beyond maritime, where automation is taking place.

The Task Force suggested that IALA may have a significant role in areas of navigation and data exchange. IALA may be in a position to assist in the development of the regulations and provide guidance to facilitate their implementation.

Several guiding principles were suggested that may assist in the preparation of any submission to the IMO:

• The need for effective regulations

• Focus on the provision of robust technology which is reliable and with redundancy

• Focus on the values and ethics of MASS

• Consideration to the mix of vessels (MASS and non MASS)

• A focus on the risk appetite for MASS operations

* + 1. MASS Task Force – programme of work

The Task Force considered that the scoping paper from China MSA may offer a potential format for reviewing the various scenarios which may then identify areas for development.

It was also noted that each committee is undertaking work which has an impact on MASS. It was suggested that each committee representative describes and presents the work that is currently underway. When reviewed together, this may identify potential further work requirements and identify any gaps and areas of common interest as well as harmonizing MASS related work between committees.

Gaining information on current and planned MASS activities and trials was considered to be an important source of knowledge. It was suggested that the development of a high-level template may be beneficial to gain essential information on the terms of reference/scope/outcomes/lessons learnt. This could also serve to facilitate transparency (without compromising business or technology interests) as well as identifying the user needs that may be relevant to the domain of IALA.

It was suggested that an initial IALA Recommendation and Guideline on MASS may be developed in the short term. An objective of this would be to provide an agile framework for the development of MASS related guidance on all areas of the work of IALA.

It was also considered that the foundation for MASS is digitalization. It may be beneficial to examine the work undertaken or planned by the committees in this context with a view to identifying and developing a framework/scheme for articulating and reviewing the level of digitalization.

The preparation of harmonized and agreed terminology was also considered to be of importance. Whilst it may not necessarily be possible to influence other organizations, a common and harmonized language should be used within IALA.

# Action requested of the Committee

The PAP is requested to:

1. Note the contents of this paper.
2. Submit this paper to all committees.
3. Request committee representatives to the MASS Task Force to provide an overview of their own committees work on MASS.

1. Input document number, to be assigned by the Committee Secretary [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Leave open if uncertain [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Footer will automatically populate [↑](#footnote-ref-3)