

## BACKGROUND STATEMENT TO THE NOMINATION

### ☐ Introduction

The Republic of Korea has promoted the installation and maintenance, the development of technology, international cooperation for aids to navigation and also strives to preserve and utilize the historical lighthouse for spreading the marine culture with the people. Based on this, we decided to run for a Council of IALA in order to contribute to the international maritime safety and aids to navigation.

### ☐ Contributions and Roles in IALA

#### 1. Cooperation with IALA

Since joining the IALA in 1962, the Republic of Korea has contributed to the development of international aids to navigation. After being elected to the IALA council for the first time in 2006, we have been actively involved in the international standardization of aids to navigation in various areas by working with IALA members:

- Review and update of the IALA NAVGUIDE
- Review and update IALA R0139 on the Marking of Man-made Offshore Structures
- Development of Product Specification S-201(AtoN Information)
- Contribution to the development of requirements for IHO S-125 (Marine Navigation Services)
- IALA ENG WG3 (Heritage & Culture) matters
- Review and update of Product Specification S-240(DGNSS Station Almanac), S-245(eLoran ASF), S-246(eLoran Station Almanac) and S-247(dLoran Station Almanac)
- Development of a new Guideline on R-Mode(MF & AIS/VDES)
- Development of a new Recommendation on the terrestrial radio services
- Review and update of a description of a maritime service in the context of eNavigation and MRN
- Revision of IMO Resolution A.857(20)

#### 2. Leading the technology of Smart Aids to Navigation

The Republic of Korea is a leader in Smart Aids to Navigation technology and strives to contribute not only to national maritime safety but also to the development of the international maritime industry. Smart Aids to Navigation technology is an advanced maritime infrastructure system designed to digitalize the functions of existing aids to navigation and enable automated data collection and management based on the 4th industrial revolution technology. This technology uses artificial intelligence (AI) to analyze data in real-time and provide marine traffic information to improve shipping safety. In particular, the need for Smart Aids to Navigation is being emphasized with the introduction of autonomous ships.

### **3. Support for IALA WWA(World Wide Academy)**

The Republic of Korea signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the IALA-Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries Cooperation Program Fund in December 2014 to fulfill its obligations to install and operate maritime traffic control services (VTS) and aids to navigation under Chapter 5 of the IMO Convention on the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS). For about 10 years, from 2015 to 2024, the Republic of Korea has provided a total of € 1.2 million for various capacity-building projects promoted by IALA WWA. In addition, we plan to continue providing financial and technical support to IALA WWA and will regularly co-host capacity-building seminars and workshops with IALA for aids to navigation in the Asia-Pacific region, contributing to the development of international maritime safety and technology.

### **4. Promotion of World Lighthouse Heritage and Culture**

Through the IALA General Assembly held in Incheon in 2018, the Republic of Korea and IALA National Members declared the "Incheon Declaration" and solidified our role as a leading country in lighthouse culture. It recognizes that the lighthouse is an important heritage of historical and cultural value beyond simple navigation safety facilities, and promotes the preservation and sustainable utilization, and international cooperation of the lighthouse. The Republic of Korea is also cooperating with various countries to come up with measures to preserve and utilize the lighthouse internationally, and since 2019, it has participated in the nomination of IALA Lighthouse of the Year, supported to archive and record the World Lighthouse Heritage, and promoted the production of commemorative plaques for IALA Lighthouse of the Year. We will continue to make efforts to spread the lighthouse culture around the world.

### **☐ IALA Council election pledge**

If the Republic of Korea is elected as a Council of the IALA, it will play a leading role in the establishment and revision of international standards in the field of aids to navigation. We will strengthen the international maritime safety system by promoting the development of Smart Aids to Navigation and high accuracy positioning and ranging technology through close cooperation with IALA and its Member States. In addition, we will contribute to the protection of the sustainable marine environment by promoting the preservation and utilization of lighthouses around the world. Through these efforts, we will do our best to further solidify IALA's status as an international organization.

We ask for your support in the IALA Council election to be held at the first IALA General Assembly in Singapore in February 2025.