Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-1) VTS48-8.2.5

Input paper for the following Committee(s): check as appropriate Purpose of paper:

**□** ARM **□** ENG **□** PAP **X** Input

**□** ENAV **X** VTS **□** Information

Agenda item [[2]](#footnote-2) 8.2

Technical Domain / Task Number 2 To be confirmed

Author(s) / Submitter(s) AMSA, IHMA and Nederlandse Loodsen Corporatie (NLC)

Update to Guideline 1089 – Provision of Vessel Traffic Services

# Summary

At VTS 47, the VTS Committee submitted a paper [1] to council proposing, inter alia, a new Task to update Guideline 1089 – *The Provision of Vessel Traffic Services* *(INS, TOS & NAS)* [2] with completion at VTS 50 in anticipation of IMO adopting a revised Resolution on Guidelines for Vessel traffic Services at the Assembly in November 2021.

At the 70th session of the IALA Council in December 2019, Council approved this document (subparagraph 11.4.3 of Report of Council 70 [3] refers).

Noting the short time available to complete this task, the authors of this input paper have prepared an initial draft to assist in the development of this important revision.

## Purpose of the document

The purpose of this document is to provide an initial draft revision to IALA Guideline 1089 – *The Provision of Vessel Traffic Services* *(INS, TOS & NAS)* for further development within the VTS Committee.

# Background

A review of IALA documentation that required subsequent updating was conducted at VTS47 and an input forwarded to Council. This input highlighted that a number of documents would require minor revisions early after adoption however Guideline 1089 required earlier attention with a new task being identified for completion by VTS50.

# Discussion

The paper submitted to Council C70 identified that, whilst the proposed revision to IMO Resolution A.857(20) [4] mainly clarifies and simplifies existing text and formalises custom and practice that has developed since the publication of the current Resolution in 1997, the one exception to this relates to Types of Service where the current Resolution continues to be misinterpreted by a number of authorities despite IALA guidance provided.

The new Resolution addresses this and, assuming that the new draft IMO Resolution is adopted, some authorities may require to make changes to the legal basis of their VTSs and most VTS Providers will need to amend the way their VTS is promulgated in nautical publications.

Council agreed the priority for updating Guideline 1089 - Provision of VTS - INS, TOS & NAS Ed 1 Dec 2012 in preparation for the adoption of the new IMO Resolution – Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services and approved the proposal from the VTS Committee that this work should be added as a new task for completion by the end of VTS50.

Recognising that this revision will be of significant interest to members of the Committee and noting the limited period available assuming adoption of the new Resolution by the IMO Assembly in November 2021, the authors of this input paper offer an initial draft revision for further development by the VTS Committee. This initial draft revision is at Enclosure 1.

## Notes on the Draft

The new IMO Resolution providing updated Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services clarifies the position on the “Provision of Vessel traffic Services” and removes the misconceptions that currently exist on Types of Service. In many respects, the current version of Guideline 1089 is still valid but the new IMO Resolution will remove the confusion over Types of Service being optional and establishes these services as capabilities of any VTS. It also clarifies and incorporates the guidance on VTSs in support of IMO adopted schemes and Voluntary VTSs established beyond Territorial Waters.

Many parts of the existing text are still relevant and these have been carried forward into the initial draft revision. The opportunity has also been taken to remove areas of duplication where the subject matter would be more appropriately addressed in other IALA Recommendations or Guidelines or in documents in the course of preparation. These include the checklist annexed to the current version of Guideline 1089 and much of the sections on promulgation of the details of a VTS, equipment capabilities, staffing and training, operational procedures and communications, and examples of message markers.

The reordering of text and aligning the Guideline to the new Revision have resulted in a comprehensive restructuring of the document and it is not practicable to offer the revision in track changes. If comparison between the existing document and new draft is required, it is suggested that the two documents are best compared against each other.

This revised draft of Guideline 1089 is based on the version of the Revised IMO Resolution as agreed at NCSR7 for consideration at MSC102 [5].

# References

1. C70-11.4.3 (VTS47-13.2.2) Input to Council on IALA VTS documents post adoption of revised A.857(20)
2. Guideline 1089 - Provision of VTS - INS, TOS & NAS Ed 1 Dec 2012
3. C70-19.1 Report of Council 70
4. IMO Resolution A.857(20) - GUIDELINES FOR VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICES
5. Extract from NCSR7 Final Report (including updated draft Resolution) – VTS48-8.1.1 & VTS48-8.1.1.1

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to:

1. Forward the document to Working Group 1 (as the assumed lead for the new task to revise Guideline 1089 with completion at VTS50).
2. Draw the attention of all members of the Committee to this draft to provide input as appropriate to WG1 in support of its further development

ENCLOSURE:

Initial Draft IALA Guideline 1089 on The Provision of Vessel Traffic Services Edition 2 Dec 2021

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