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Agenda item x.x

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Author(s) / Submitter(s) ARM Chair / Vice Chair

Discussion paper on Implementation of Standards and Recommendations

# Summary

At ARM5 held in Seoul, Korea discussions were held regarding the proposed future document structure and its relation with existing documents.

## Purpose of the document

This document sets out the considered views of the ARM Chair, Vice Chair and working group Chairs and Vice Chairs to inform the SG and DSG in their considerations regarding document structure

# Background

At ARM5 the proposed document structure for IALA was considered. It is understood that this will be initially composed of seven Standards covering topic areas already approved by Council. These Standards will refer to existing IALA Recommendations and identify which are normative (should be followed) and which are informative (may be followed). This is an interim position until existing Recommendations and Guidelines are reviewed.

# Discussion

The ARM Committee, having considered this proposal, has some concerns regarding this approach.

It is considered that referencing Recommendations in any Standard may be the incorrect approach.

Given that:

* Standards are only approved at General Assembly limiting the opportunity to adjust references
* Recommendations are approved at Council and therefore potentially are being implemented on a six monthly basis
* Standards from user perspective are better remaining static for a period longer than 4 years

ARM believes the Standard should be free standing and Recommendations carry the reference to one or more Standards.

Existing Recommendations considered fit for purpose and identified as normative can be referenced to the new Standards from the outset by a small revision during the reformatting exercise. Those Recommendations, not yet suitable for referencing (informative), can be revised over the 2018-2022 period and referenced to appropriate Standards or turned into Guidelines during this period.

By doing this a clear set of new documents is available from the outset. The revised document set will grow gradually every 6 months to be largely complete by 2022.

Furthermore consideration was made regarding the recently accepted preamble for Recommendations. On reflection the paragraph requesting a particular committee to monitor the particular Recommendation is thought to be restrictive. It is considered that committee allocation is better managed through appropriate lists of document ownership maintained by the Secretariat. By doing this the Recommendation text remains future proof and avoids the risk of being outdated as committees evolve as current documents have become.

# Action requested

The SG and DSG are requested to consider this paper.