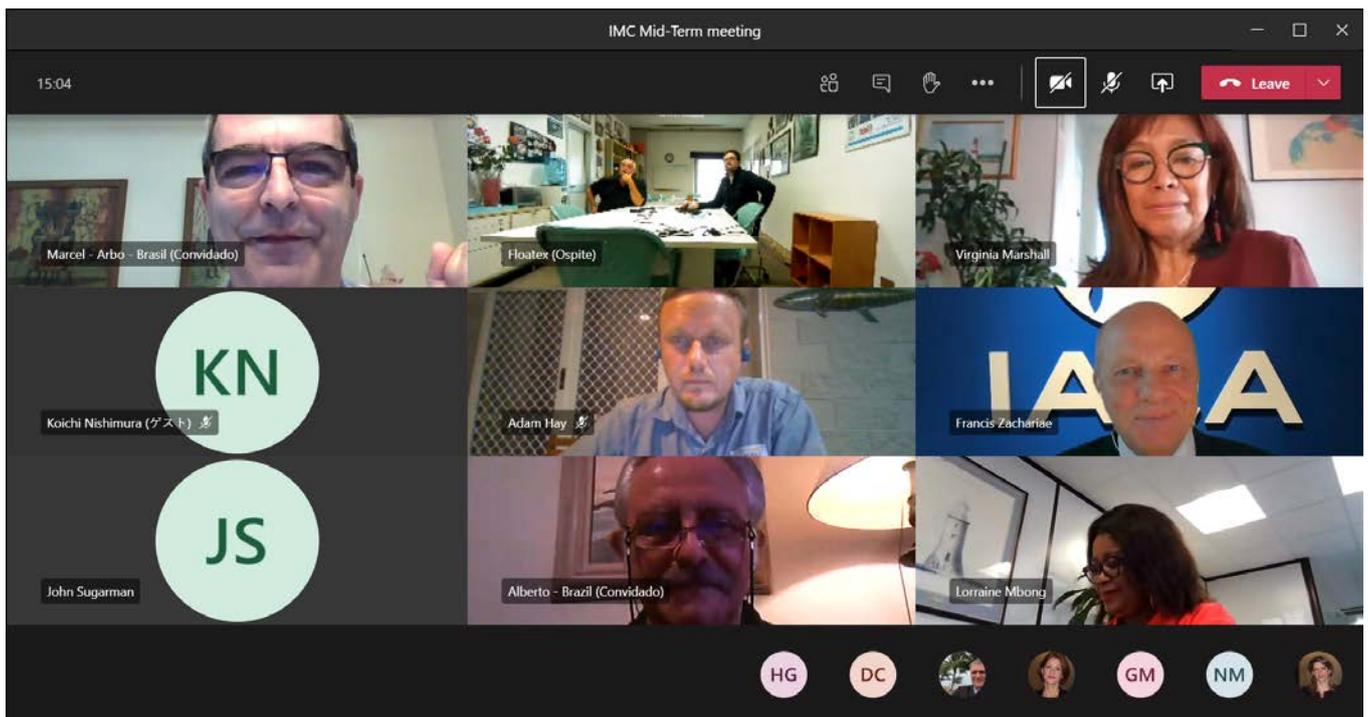




# Report of the Industrial Members Mid-Term Assembly Video conference 6 October 2020





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## GENERAL

The meeting of the IMC was held by video conference on the 6 October 2020 from 0900-1100 UTC. The meeting was chaired by the president Mr Marcel Tetu and was attended by 29 participants.

### 1. OPENING REMARKS

The president expressed a warm welcome to all participants and thanked them for their attendance in these extraordinary conditions. He mentioned the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic on the whole industry, indicating how difficult it has been for many companies across the world. 2020 was also marked by the recent news from Tideland that it ceased its activity for Aids to Navigation. In order to have a smooth running of this virtual meeting, the president asked the Secretary-General to be the facilitator. Mr Francis Zachariae also expressed a warm welcome to all participants. He reported that many IALA meetings have been held virtually since the beginning of the pandemic and it is going rather well.

### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The draft agenda was approved.

### 3. STATUS OF IALA BY SECRETARY-GENERAL AND RELEVANT STAFF

Secretary-General Francis Zachariae introduced a short point on the current status of membership. The membership of IALA is 305, which is 10 more members since the last General Assembly in Incheon and even after termination of several memberships for non-payment. More explanation and the movements in membership in the different categories can be found in input paper 3.2.

The Secretary-General then decided to focus his status report on the developments of the change of status. The Diplomatic Conference held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 25 to 28 February 2020 reached the result it was aiming at. The Conference marked a very important step for IALA as the Convention for the future Organization under intergovernmental status was adopted. More than 239 persons from 62 States participated in the Conference or were observers. Delegates with credentials from 50 States signed the Final Act of the Conference adopting the text of the Convention and two resolutions: one resolution on languages of the Organization and one on the signing ceremony in Paris in November 2020.

The Convention includes robust arrangements for a smooth transition in the annex – Transitional arrangements.

These arrangements will ensure that the activities of IALA's organs and its technical work in the area of Marine Aids to Navigation will continue uninterrupted and that its responsibilities towards the maritime community will be undiminished and maintained with the customary high level of commitment and expertise.

The development of a set of General Regulations, including Financial Regulations, is well advanced and the final draft is envisaged well before the first General Assembly of the new IGO. Meanwhile, the draft Headquarters Agreement needs to be finalized in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic, but a very satisfactory draft is already on the table.

As regards the position of our very important Industrial members, the Convention follows the approach of the Convention of other International Organizations, which designates companies involved in relevant business as Affiliate Members to ensure their inclusion as an important category of its membership. IALA's Industrial members will thus be Affiliate Members of IALA as an IGO and this will ensure the continued, strong cohesion between Marine Aids to Navigation authorities and providers that has always been important for the work of IALA.

All present National members of IALA from States that will not immediately become Member States of the IGO shall, subject to their formal request, become Associate Members of the Organization for a duration of up to ten years from the date of entry into force of the Convention, unless the General Assembly decides to extend that period.

The question of the languages of the new Organization was discussed intensively during all four meetings. While there was agreement on the working language, English, the compromise of having the six languages of the United Nations (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) was only achieved on the last day of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole in Kuala Lumpur.

As agreed in Resolution one of the Diplomatic Conference the General Assembly shall be conducted in all official languages and input papers, in the form of draft resolutions and the report, shall be translated into the official languages.

The Conference determined that the working language of the Organization will be English, and that the work and meetings of the Council, Committees and subsidiary bodies will be conducted in the working language.

It is the aspiration to make the outputs of the Organization, all the Guidance documents, available in the official languages with the help of the relevant Members over time.

The second Resolution is about the Signing of the Convention in Paris in November. I am still negotiating with the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs in Paris about this event. It is at this stage not decided how this will be carried out, but a decision will be taken soon.

The main output documents from the Conference – The Final Act, the two resolutions, the Convention and the reports – are available on the IALA web site <https://www.iala-aism.org/meeting-docs/diplomatic-conference/>

#### **4. STATUS OF THE WORLD-WIDE ACADEMY BY THE DEAN**

The dean of the IALA World-Wide Academy Omar Frits Eriksson introduced the role of the Academy and the latest developments. Given the characteristics of the COVID-19 Pandemic with its second wave and perhaps even a third wave, it is difficult to predict when the situation may stabilize. Different parts of the world are in different phases of the pandemic and it will take some time for the situation to normalize worldwide. This delays further the point in time when the Academy will be able to conduct physical meetings, given its global scope. Therefore, for the foreseeable future, all activities of the academy will be conducted online. The following courses are expected to be delivered in online versions (in whole or in part) before the end of the year:

- Master of Aids to Navigation Management (L1.2) (started)
- Risk Management Toolbox (L1.3)
- Marine Aids to Navigation Manager (L1.1)
- Procurement of Marine Aids to Navigation Products and Services (new course)

Some Industrial Members already have staff members who are certified Marine Aids to Navigation Managers (L1.1) and all Industrial Members are encouraged to sign their staff up to relevant courses. The new course on procurement is not (currently) an IALA Model Course but is being developed as a response to the needs of authorities in developing countries to understand the procurement process and how best to procure products and services in a fair and transparent manner. The assistance of Industrial Members in the

development of this course would be greatly appreciated by the Academy. The Dean conclude with the following action points:

1. Industrial Members are requested to *note* the update provided by the Academy.
2. Industrial Members are *encouraged* to sign their staff up to relevant IALA Model Courses.
3. The Industrial Members who are willing to review and provide feedback on the new procurement course being developed are *encouraged* to contact the Academy.

## 5. UPDATE ON THE CONFERENCE 2022 BRAZIL

Alberto Piovesana Jr from the Diretoria de Hidrografia e Navegação of the Brazilian Navy made a presentation about the facilities booked for the 20th IALA conference planed in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from 28 May to June 4 2022. The presentation included details about the programme of the week as well as the different possible options for organizing the Industrial members evening. Members discussed the different options. Marcel and Alberto will be selecting the best options for a successful event shortly. They reminded the members about the importance of sponsorship as well.

***Action item: Brazil to issue an information package with details about the exhibition to be distributed to Industrial Members by January 2021.***

## 6. LESSONS LEARNED FROM INCHEON 2018

Chris Procter, introduced input paper '6.1 IALA Industrial Members Survey Report'. He urged members to reply to these surveys when they are sent out as participation is key to have a better feedback. The participation rate for this survey was rather low. Mr Procter then highlighted the major conclusions from the answers received. Overall members were satisfied with the exhibition at the conference but suggest some improvements for the next event.

## 7. DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDUSTRIAL MEMBERS

Secretary-General Francis Zachariae introduced input paper '7.1 Draft Terms of Reference' indicating that these changes are necessary in view of preparation for the change of status of the organization from non-governmental to intergovernmental.

Paper 7.1 Draft Terms of Reference was approved and will be submitted to the General Assembly in 2022 for adoption.

## 8. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR INDUSTRIAL MEMBERS

Marcel Tetu introduced input paper '8.1 Code of conduct'. This draft paper has been developed in cooperation with the IALA secretariat. Topics to be included in the code of conduct could be as following:

- Continued innovation and developments of IALA standards
- Laws and Regulations of each served countries
- Corruption, fraud or money laundering not tolerated
- Protection of the environment
- Fair and respectful treatment of the employees, suppliers and contractors
- Respect of human rights, no slavery, no human trafficking, no discrimination, equal opportunities
- Privacy and personal data protection

The code of conduct would benefit the members and IALA. The Secretary-General indicated that Kevin Gregory will be in charge of coordinating the work on this document. He invited member to join the process and contribute to make the document that will be presented at the General Assembly in Brazil in 2022.

**Action item: Secretariat to invite members to join a correspondence group commencing its work early in 2021 by means of online meetings of about 2-3 times during the year. The Final draft of the Code of Conduct will then be presented during at the IM Assembly in 2022 at the IALA Conference in Brazil.**

## **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Nothing to report.

## **10. CLOSING OF THE MEETING**

Secretary-General, Francis Zachariae thanked all of the industrial member for their involvement in the work for IALA. President Marcel Tetu thanked everyone for attending the meeting and declared the session closed.



10, rue des Gaudines - 78100 Saint Germain en Laye, France  
Tél. +33 (0)1 34 51 70 01- Fax +33 (0)1 34 51 82 05 - [contact@iala-aism.org](mailto:contact@iala-aism.org)  
[www.iala-aism.org](http://www.iala-aism.org)

International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities  
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