

C80-7.8 – National Matter Update by Malaysia

Malaysia presents an update on national matters of relevance to the work of IALA.

Vessel Traffic Services (VTS)

Malaysia Marine Department (MMD) has moved to the new building named as Menara Dius Api (Light Dues Tower) on the 15th January 2024. The long-awaited building finally fit to be occupied after almost THREE (3) YEARS delayed due to many challenges that took place during the Covid 19 Pandemic.

Upgrading of the VTS KLANG (Straits of Malacca VTS) was made concurrently and officially moved to the new building in May 2024.

MMD has formally been appointed by the Government to become the Competence Authority (CA) for all matters related to the Vessel Traffic Services in early 2024. Rules and regulations, Guidelines necessary as CA is ongoing.

Qualifications and Training

Continual training program for the VTS Operator under the ASEAN and Japan and set to be run until 2027. For the year 2024, the training program is set on the 23rd of September until 13th December 2024. Meanwhile, VTS Supervisor and Managers in house training program and guidelines have been drafted and set to be used as National Guidelines before updating of the rules and regulations complete.

Malaysia commitment toward the capacity building under the World-Wide Academy Training Program, a sum of Euro 250,000 has been transferred to IALA for the year of 2023 and 2024. This is part of contribution by Malaysia made under Memorandum of Understanding which has been signed during the IALA Conference 2023 at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

MMD has initiated an in-house Hydrographic Surveying Training (CAT B) training program with the University of Technology Malaysia as part of MMD preparation to enhance her capacity and readiness for the S-100 and S-200. A total of 12 participants including 2 participants from Guinea currently attending the program which begun on May 27th and expected to end on the 5th of December 2024.

Days of The Seafarers (DoTS and WATON Day)

A bond that lies between seafarers and aids to navigation undoubtedly lies at the very heart of the maritime industry. From towering lighthouses to humble buoys, these aids to navigation stand as silent sentinels, alerting the potential hazards that lie beneath the surface.

The theme of MARPOL at 50 – Our Commitment Goes on for 2023 and Navigating the Future – Safety First together with theme for DoTS, Ocean worth Protecting, Safety Tips at Sea respectively were used as the background for both celebrations.

By combining the appreciation to the seafarers for their sacrifices, the awareness of having clean environment together with the importance of the aids to navigation, various events were held by MMD together with NGO's, schools and public as part of the promotion for WATON Day.

National WATON Day was held from 19th to 20th August 2023 at Tanjung Tuan (Cape Rachado) Lighthouse. Then followed by an event at Pulau Kuraman Lighthouse at Labuan on the 15th September, the at the Bukit Segenting Lighthouse on the 16th September 2023 and lastly at Pulau Papan Lightbeacon, Labuan on the 19th of September.

Various events for promoting Aids to Navigation to the general public and at the same time an awareness of the importance to keep the environment clean by organizing beach clean up were made at the lighthouses and light beacons surrounding area.

Similar events will take place on the 29th and 30th of June 2024 at Straits Quay Penang, Muka Head and Fort Cornwallis Lighthouses.
