

IALA COUNCIL 68th session



11-14 December 2018
IALA Headquarters

13 – INTERNATIONAL

13.5 – FERNS

13.5.1 - 27th session of the Council of the Far East Radionavigation Service (FERNS)

Note by the Secretariat

1. BACKGROUND

The FERNS Council met for its 27th session from 22 to 26 October in Moscow, Russian Federation.

The FERNS Technical Working Group (TWG), held its 13th session on 22 October, chaired by Professor GUG Seunggi, of Korea.

IALA was represented by the Deputy Secretary-General, Michael Card and Events and Documents Coordinator Marie-Helene Grillet.

2. DEVELOPMENTS - ONGOING

The FERNS Council continued its work to ensure harmonisation of Loran-C and Chayka services.

A special bilateral meeting between the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation delegations was held on the Tuesday evening to discuss coordination of action towards the establishment of a new Russian-Korean Radio Navigation Chain.

3. DEVELOPMENTS – NEW

The Republic of Korea reported on its continuing plan to upgrade its Loran-C service to eLoran. There was no indication that China or Russia will upgrade existing stations to eLoran/eChayka.

Resilient PNT is an issue of vital importance for FERNS members, and DGNSS augmentation systems remain a prominent field for research, often using the signals received from all available satellite systems. Russian observer corporation, Kronstadt Technology described plans to cooperate with Norway to test transmission of SBAS data over VDES channels in the Arctic, using the Norwegian VDES satellite now in orbit.

The FERNS Technical Working Group made proposals on topics for further consideration, among which GNSS terrestrial backup systems for positioning (R-Mode) and timing (eLoran/eChayka), and MSI coordination and broadcast.

This is in line with the FERNS Resolution of 2016 to broaden the scope of the group.

4. IALA

IALA made a presentation on recent developments in the work of the organisation.

IALA also submitted a statement to the FERNS Council.

Statement from IALA to members of the FERNS Council, October 2018

IALA has played a role in the work of the Far East Radionavigation Service (FERNS) from the beginning. In recent years, IALA has provided a second member of the IALA delegation to support the IALA Moderator.



As Deputy Secretary-General, Michael Card has represented IALA at meetings in China, Korea, and the Russian Federation.

Michael Card complete his work with IALA on 31 December 2018.

For future meetings of the FERNS Council and its Technical Working Group the IALA delegation will be its Technical Operations Manager, Mr Minsu Jeon.

IALA expresses the wish that the content and objectives of FERNS Council Resolution 25.1, made on 28 October 2016, are carried forward by FERNS for the improvement and harmonisation of maritime services and resilient position fixing in the FERNS area. IALA also wishes that the work of FERNS remains closely aligned with that of IALA for the mutual benefit of the two organisations and for the safety and efficiency of maritime transport and the protection of the marine environment.

Michael Card wishes his colleagues in the FERNS Council success in their work and happiness in their personal lives.

Michael Card, Deputy Secretary General, IALA

5. OBSERVERS AT FERNS COUNCIL MEETINGS

The FERNS Council wishes to open its Council meetings to observers from countries outside the FERNS Agreement to benefit from external expertise and exchange on various subjects of common interest, starting with their next meeting in Korea in November 2019.

6. THE COUNCIL IS REQUESTED TO

Note the above.