**Report of the joint meeting of the AIS TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP and the COMMUNICATION WORKING GROUP of the IALA e-Nav Committee**,  
 12th Intersessional meeting held 5-9 March 2012, in San Francisco, USA

1. **Introduction**

The AIS Technical Working Group (WG 3) and the Communication Working Group (WG4) of the IALA e-NAV Committee held a joint intersessional meeting in San Francisco, USA, from 5 to 9 March 2012, hosted by US Coast Guard. The venue was Hotel Hyatt Regency, San Francisco.

The meeting was chaired by Rolf Zetterberg (WG3) and Bill Kautz (WG4).

The main objectives of the meeting were to continue discussions on the revision of MRCP and plan for the development of AIS and VHF Data Exchange, based on the progress made at ITU WRC 12.

1. **Progress made**

**2.1 General Discussions**

### 2.1.1 Terminology Noting that the term “Next Generation AIS” may be misunderstood, it is the intention to use the term AIS only for present AIS functionality. The term “VHF Data Exchange” is used to distinguish the additional capabilities based on “AIS protocol” and other standard ITU protocols.

### 2.1.2 Efficient use of existing AIS Based on input SF 09 “AIS data quality of static and dynamic AIS messages”, the existing problems with missing or incorrect AIS user input data was discussed. Several IMO documents address different aspects of the problem and it was concluded that a consolidation and update of the different documents could be useful. It was noted that China has submitted to IMO a proposal for a revision of Resolution A.917(22) on Guidelines for the Onboard Operational Use of Shipborne Automatic Identification Systems (MSC90/25/7).

* 1. **AIS and VHF Data Exchange**The outcome of WRC12 and the ongoing work in IMO was discussed and considered. The outcome of WRC12 and expected results from WRC 15 and WRC18 facilitates an increased capacity for data exchange, partly based on the existing AIS protocols and partly on other ITU standard protocols for digital communication.

The draft document “Plan for AIS and VHF Data Communications in e-Navigation” (SF Output 02) was developed to inform Council and the Committees of the plan for future work, including details on changes to the MRCP.

A subgroup addressed the User and Communications Requirements of the draft document. This included a detailed review of the IMO CG on e-Navigation input to COMSAR (COMSAR16/11, annex 1).

The review concentrated on the technical aspects of the user requirements, with some additional review of operational and regulatory elements when these indicated a possible technical response. Following the review, a draft table was prepared mapping user needs and identified gaps that could be addressed in some manner by the VHF implementation plan against the function / sub function as identified in the IALA e-Navigation ‘Three essential elements’ document. In addition, it was noted if these functions/sub functions would be addressed by existing AIS capability; VHF data exchange using AIS protocols; and/or VHF Data Exchange using ITU standard protocols.

The draft document also contains an overview of expected co-ordinations with other organizations.

***Action items***

* *The* ***Chair of WG 3*** *is asked to forward the document SF Output 02 to the IALA secretariat as an input to e-NAV 11.*

A draft Liaison note to Council (SF WD 03) was developed, seeking approval for proposed change of wording of Work Task 14 of the Committee in order to accommodate the work foreseen in the plan mentioned above. Additionally a draft timetable/roadmap for the work was developed (SF WD 02).

* *The* ***Chair of WG 3*** *is asked to keep the documents SF WD 02 and SF WD 03 as Working Documents and bring them to the attention of the WG 3 for further work at e-NAV 11.*

**2.3 MRCP**

The MRCP working document from e-NAV10 was updated to include the outcome of WRC-12. These changes include updating the future developments (MF/HF) section to reference changes made to Appendix 17 of the ITU-R Radio Regulations as well as an update of the VHF section (AIS and VHF Data) to indicate changes to Appendix 18 of the ITU-R Radio Regulations. The section on WRC-12 was replaced with a new section for WRC-15, which identifies the new maritime agenda items and agenda items that could impact the maritime spectrum.  The working document includes suggested changes from various inputs that have not yet been agreed to by the Communications Working Group. The document remains a working document and work on updating and consideration of the suggested changes to the MRCP will continue at e-NAV11.

***Action items:***

* *The C****hair of WG 4*** *is asked to keep the document as a Working Document and bring it to the attention of the WG 4 for further work at e-NAV 11*
  1. **Rec A 124**The prioritization list for the remaining Appendices of Recommendation A124 was updated (SF WD 01).

**2.5 Innovative use of AIS**No progress was made on this issue.

**3. Presentations**

Jeffrey van Gils presented the developments of the website for Collection of ASM:s. The collection now contains 64 messages and a number of new functions are added:  
  
Added “in testing” in workflow;  
Collection of fixed AIS stations;  
Connect ASM to fixed stations;  
List and map overview of fixed AIS stations;  
Collection of areas;  
Connect ASM’s to areas;  
Map overview of ASM areas;  
Collection DGNSS stations;  
List and map overview of DGNSS stations;  
Added important documents and links

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1. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place during eNav11 in St Germain en Laye, March 26 – 30, 2012. A possible intersessional meeting is planned for WG3, date to be decided.

1. **The Final Plenary**

This report was considered, amended and accepted as representing the actual progress made and the results of the meeting in San Francisco.

The chair thanked US Coast Guard for hosting the meeting. The chair also thanked all participants for their attendance and contributions to the discussions and wished everybody a safe journey home.

**Rolf Zetterberg**

Chair AIS Technical Working Group of IALA eNav Committee**.**

**Annex A:**

**Participants.**

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| **Name** | **Organization** | **Country** |
| Arroyo, Jorge  Vice chair WG 3 | USCG | USA |
| Bober, Stefan | Federal Waterways and Shipping Adm | Germany |
| Browning, Peggy | exactEarth | USA |
| Card, Michael | Zeni Lite Buoy Co | Japan |
| Carson-Jackson, Jillian | AMSA | Australia |
| Coutu, Jean Francois | CCG | Canada |
| Dominguez, Alfredo | Tideland Signal Corp | USA |
| Fabritius, Gaetan | CLS | France |
| Gils, Jeffrey | Rijkswaterstaat SVC | Netherlands |
| Haugen, Tony | Kongsberg Seatex | Norway |
| Heikonen, Kaisu | FTA | Finland |
| Jensen, Christopher | USCG | USA |
| Jones, Stephen | AMS | Australia |
| Kautz, Bill  Chair WG 4 | USCG | USA |
| Minichino, Ben | CLS | USA |
| Miyadera Yoshio | Japan Radio Company | Japan |
| Norsworthy, Ross | USCG | USA |
| Paap, Pieter | Rijkwaterstaat | Netherlands |
| Rissone, Christian | ANFR | ITU |
| Schultz, Johnny | L3 Comunications | USA |
| Smith, Paul | USCG | USA |
| Tetreault, Brian | US Army Corps of Engineers | USA |
| Valette, Jean-Jaques | CLS | France |
| Yauchi Takamasa | OKI | Japan |
| Zetterberg, Rolf Chair WG 3 | SMA | Sweden |
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**Appologies**

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| **Name** | **Organization** | **Country** |
| Furyama, Kenji | JRC | Japan |
| Jensen, Jens Kristian | Danish Maritime Administration | Denmark |
| Lindborg, Johan | SAAB TransponderTech | Sweden |
| Martin, David | exactEarth | Canada |
| Nyberg, Magnus | Pharos Marine | Sweden |
| Pettersson, Mikael | SAAB TransponderTech | Sweden |
| Pietraszewski, David | USCG | USA |
| Oltman, Jan Hendrik | Federal Waterways and Shipping Adm | Germany |
| Tremlett, Robert | exactEarth | Belgium |
| Williams, Alwyn | Trinity House | UK |
| Wotton, Richard | MCA | UK |

**Annex B.**

**Input Documents**

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| **INPUT DOCUMENTS** | **Title** |
| 01 | Draft agenda Rev 2 |
| 02 | List of documents Rev 1 (this list) |
| 03 | Rotterdam Output 03 (AIS TWG vision for AIS) |
| 04 | e-NAV10-10-3 Next Generation Combined AIS VHF v.1 |
| 05 | Issues to discuss |
| 06 | e-NAV10-10-4 essential Communications Elements of eNAV rev2 |
| 07 | AIS 2G Architecture r 2 |
| 08 | Consideration of AIS Distress Function - rev |
| 09 | AIS data quality of static and dynamic AIS messages |
| 10 | Appendix 18 (WRC-12) comments for next WRC |
| 11 | IALA MRCP Ed 1- Dec 2009 rev by Kenji |
| 12 | Draft Polar\_Comms |
| 13 | Results of WRC 12 affecting AIS |
| 14 | SEAMAX Summary |
| 15 | Concerning the VHF portions of the “Three Essential Elements of e-Navigation Communication”- Proposed revision of strategy. (Late input) |
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**Output documents**

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| **Output Document** | **Title** |
| 01 | Report of the intersessional WG 3 + WG 4 meeting |
| 02 | Plan for AIS and VDE |
| 03 |  |

**Working Documents** (for next WG meeting)

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| **Working Document** | **Title** |
| 01 | Proposed prioritization list for A124 |
| 02 | Draft Liaison note to Council on Task 14 |
| 03 | Comms time Table |
| 04 | Draft revision of MRCP |