

4 – STATUS OF THE WORLD-WIDE ACADEMY

4.1 – World-Wide Academy Update

WORLD-WIDE ACADEMY UPDATE

1. STRATEGY – GETTING ALL COASTAL STATES ONBOARD

As described at the IMC meeting in June 2020, the IALA World-Wide Academy focuses on facilitating the effective implementation of IALA Standards, Recommendations, Guidelines and Model Courses by coastal States through education, training and capacity building thereby underpinning the second strategic goal of IALA. The aim is to ensure that all coastal States can fulfil the obligations related to Marine Aids to Navigation placed upon them in SOLAS Chapter V and that all coastal States can claim conformance with the relevant IALA Standards. In order to achieve these goals, the Academy undertakes a wide range of activities based on three simple principles:

- Enlighten* raise the awareness of high-level decision makers of their international obligations relating to safety of navigation;
- Educate* provide a suite of relevant education and training opportunities for as many as possible; and
- Engage* pursue long-term capacity building activities with coastal States and provide advice on how to overcome challenges.

The Academy cooperates with and coordinates its activities with other international organizations, such as the IMO and the IHO, underpinning the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the UN Delivering as One approach.

The Academy continues to develop a global network of alumni and has, as of 31 December 2019, successfully trained through its Accredited Training Organisations, a total of:

- 336 Marine Aids to Navigation Managers
- 39 Masters of Marine Aids to Navigation Management
- 352 users of the IALA Risk Management Toolbox

The Academy continues to support a worldwide network of Accredited Training Organisations (ATOs) to facilitate the delivery of high-quality Marine Aids to Navigation Management training.

In total, 186 participants from 62 countries successfully completed one of the Academy supported Level 1 Marine Aids to Navigation Manager family of courses in 2019.

Details of this strategy can be found in input paper 2.1 to the June 2020 IMC meeting.



2. CONSEQUENCES OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

In March 2020, IALA postponed all physical meetings and travel activity. The headquarters building was closed and all staff members have since worked remotely from their homes. This of course had a huge impact on how the Academy conducts its business. Until then, the primary modus operandi had been face-to-face meetings, seminars and courses requiring a significant amount of travel activity. Since the COVID-19 lock down, all meetings and Academy activities have been conducted online. Development of online training courses has since been a major focus and the staff have been busy developing their online network with Academy Alumni, stakeholders and other partners.

3. THE NEAR FUTURE

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.

A VTS strategy has also been developed by the Academy to enable capacity building assistance to authorities who are developing their VTS capabilities as well as to enable relationships to be developed with Accredited Training Organisations delivering the VTS Model Courses.

The Academy is delighted to observe that some Industrial Members are delivering Level 2 IALA Model Courses on various topics. This contributes directly to the second strategic goal of IALA which is to *get all coastal States to contribute to a sustainable and efficient global network of Marine Aids to Navigation through capacity building and the sharing of expertise.*

4. ACTION REQUESTED

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. Those Industrial Members who are willing to review and provide feedback on the new procurement course being developed are *encouraged* to contact the Academy.

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