TO IALA MEMBERS

Saint-Germain-en-Laye, 12th September 2018

Our Ref.: PR/WAtoN/2019/2018-204

World Marine Aids to Navigation Day 2019
Invite to submit proposals for a theme

Dear IALA members,

One of the results of our successful General Assembly last May in Incheon, Republic of Korea, is the establishment of a World Marine Aids to Navigation Day on 1st July every year, the first of which will be celebrated next year, in 2019. This decision was the subject of the General Assembly Resolution A13-04, attached herewith.

The declaration of international days of observance is a well-established practice in many international organizations, with the main broad aims to:

- Make the chosen subject visible around the world;
- Reaffirm commitments for the benefit of society;
- Highlight achievements; and
- Indicate where action is desirable or needed.

International days are a good means to spread goodwill and encourage cooperation.

With this in mind the General Assembly established a World Marine Aids to Navigation Day with a view to publicising the IALA technical work more widely, especially its relevance and importance to the safe conduct of shipping in coastal waters and waterways, when the public entertains high expectations about accident prevention and proper control of environmental risks.

The objectives of the World Marine AtoN Day are the following:

- To promote greater awareness of IALA by bringing to the attention of the wider public the role of IALA and the significance of its technical work in enhancing the safety of navigation world-wide.
- To improve the society’s perception of AtoN as modern, technologically advanced marine aids which, alongside traditional lighthouses, embrace the latest digital developments and support new developments in all fields, including VTS.
The first step in organising the 2019 World AtoN Day is for the Secretariat to suggest themes, based on proposals received from members of all categories, for the Council to develop a theme in December 2018.

Further steps will then be needed and the IALA Website will be the principal communication channel to disseminate information to and from its members on the national events that will take place on this occasion.

The purpose of this letter is therefore to invite you to send me your proposal(s) for the 2019 World Marine Aids to Navigation Day, by 1st November 2018, by e-mailing to secgen@iala-aism.org. The members’ proposals will be collated by the Secretariat and submitted to the Council in December for final decision.

The chosen theme will be advertised world-wide through the IALA Website and all suitable communication means.

I look forward to receiving your suggestions by 1st November.

Yours sincerely

Francis ZACHARIAE
Secretary-General
Resolutions A13-04

ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORLD MARINE AIDS TO NAVIGATION DAY

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NOTING the recommendation of the Council to establish a World Marine Aids to Navigation Day;

HAVING CONSIDERED the objective to promote greater awareness of IALA and its work by bringing to the attention of the wider public the role of Marine Aids to Navigation;

HAVING ALSO CONSIDERED this opportunity for all IALA members – National, Associate and Industrial – to showcase their respective expertise and how they collaborate to stimulate technological innovation in support of the development and harmonization of AtoN around the world;

DECIDES to establish the World Day of Marine Aids to Navigation the 1st July each year; and

INVITES IALA members and others in a position to do so to support the World Day of Marine Aids to Navigation.