# TABLE OF CONTENTS

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL 6

UNDERSTANDING IALA 8

IALA’S CORE VALUE 9

STRATEGIC VISION FOR 2018-2026 10

SECRETARIAT 11

COMMITTEES 12

MEMBERSHIP 13

- CATEGORIES 13
- STATUS 14
- EVOLUTION 15

IALA NATIONAL MEMBER IN 2020 16

GOVERNANCE 17

- GENERAL ASSEMBLY 17
- COUNCIL 17
- FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE (FAC) 18
- POLICY ADVISORY PANEL (PAP) 18
- LEGAL ADVISORY PANEL (LAP) 18
- COMMITTEES 18
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INDUSTRIAL MEMBERS COMMITTEE (IMC)</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE TRANSITION TO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADOPTION OF THE TEXT AND SIGNING OF THE CONVENTION</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMOOTH TRANSITION</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE CONVENTION</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINANCIAL RESULTS</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINANCIAL POSITION</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE WORLD-WIDE ACADEMY</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE IALA YEAR</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAIN RESULTS</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HERITAGE LIGHTHOUSE OF THE YEAR</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW PUBLICATIONS</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECOMMENDATIONS</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUIDELINES</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REVOKED DOCUMENTS</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORLD-WIDE ACADEMY</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020 AT A GLANCE</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRATEGY - GETTING ALL COASTAL STATES ONBOARD.</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENLIGHTENING - RAISING THE AWARENESS OF HIGH-LEVEL DECISION MAKERS.</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUCATING - PROVIDING EDUCATION AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITY TO MANY</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGAGING - PURSUING LONG-TERM CAPACITY BUILDING</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Message from the President and the Secretary-General

In the period under review when the world was under restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic it was decided that Committee meetings would be held in virtual form and that Secretariat staff would work from home. A period greater than one week was found necessary to take account of time differences across the globe. Provision of aids to navigation services, so essential for the flow of trade, had to be maintained. Around the world members found that their staff were regarded as key workers as life continued to be restricted. They responded wonderfully to outages and performed vital maintenance as circumstances demanded.

The 71st and 72nd sessions of the IALA Council were held by video conference in June and December. Despite time zones all councillors were present at these sessions and a great spirit of cooperation was achieved, testimony to the efforts that IALA’s members continue to provide worldwide.

On international cooperation IALA is extremely grateful for the efforts of the people who come to St Germain-en-Laye (or who contribute by remote means) as they enable the Association to present a highly competent presence on the international stage including with activities at IMO, IHO, ITU and in other forums as well as workshops and technical gatherings organised in regions the world over.

IALA encourages its members to work together in a common cause to harmonise marine aids to navigation worldwide and to ensure that the movements of vessels are safe, expeditious and cost-effective while protecting the environment.

One example of the splendid cooperation between members is that demonstrated by the technical committees. Here they draft and submit for Council approval guidance documents in the form of standards, recommendations, guidelines and manuals. These are truly reflective of a broad cross-section of the membership seeking to improve the safety of the world’s waterways. Twice each year the IALA Council approves new issues. These provide detailed information on an aspect of a specific subject with best practices and suggestions for implementation. Overall, they relate to planning, operating and managing aids to navigation services and related topics. Importantly, they may be downloaded at no charge, a valuable contribution to maritime safety.

Towards the end of the year the latest edition of the IALA VTS Manual was being prepared for publication, the seventh edition of that first issued in 1993. The purpose of this publication is to assist contracting governments, competent authorities
A Message from the President and the Secretary-General

and VTS authorities in harmonizing the delivery of Vessel Traffic Services worldwide by providing a comprehensive overview on all aspects relating to the provision of VTS. The suite of publications can be found under Guidance Documents on the IALA website here: www.iala-aism.org and a printed catalogue has been issued.

We have commenced a series of webinars covering topics of interest for the maritime community. One such provided background information on the recommendations and guidelines that were approved at Council 72 in December 2020. Here was provided an opportunity for committee participants to highlight the work they have undertaken and to describe the content of the documents that were produced during technical committee meetings. Development of guidance documents is key to IALA and webinars are an opportunity to spread more knowledge about our documents both to members and non-members. The second series of webinars considered some of the challenges that marine aids to navigation service providers were facing. These webinars may be seen on the dedicated IALA YouTube Channel available here: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvBskKgXTwNuSJ2OsvXClO/videos

With the theme Collaborating to Harmonize Maritime Digitalization e-Navigation Underway Asia-Pacific was scheduled from 8 / 9 September 2020 and held virtually. This highly successful conference focused on digital technologies in the maritime sector, including e-Navigation and the autonomous ship, ultimately aiming at establishing the Digital@Sea Initiative.

On 1 July 2020 we celebrated the World Marine Aids to Navigation Day virtually. Photographs of marine aids to navigation were shared through social media to tell the world how important these members’ assets are for global safety, efficiency of navigation and protection of the environment.

With regard to the 20th IALA Conference to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the theme will be Marine Aids to Navigation - Innovation for a Sustainable Future. Plans are well advanced for this event, which was to be held from 28 May to 4 June 2022, but has been postponed to May 2023 due to the pandemic. A call for papers has been issued with a postponed deadline.

This year the pandemic with its restrictions on travel has made it difficult for the Academy to convene meetings. Nevertheless, its online activities have been developed. Plans are afoot for a training course on the IALA Risk Management Toolbox in November 2021 in Melbourne. This course will provide an international overview of risk management stressing the importance of stakeholder liaison before demonstrating the value of the four IALA Risk Management Tools in waterway planning.

Once again it is our privilege to bring to you a review of an exceptional year for IALA with many challenges that we are pleased to say our resilient membership, supported by a most able Secretariat, acquitted themselves to an exemplary degree.

Readers may rest assured that the Association is in good hands, well-found, financially sound and flourishing.
Established in 1957, IALA is a not-for-profit, international technical association. It brings together marine aids to navigation authorities, manufacturers, consultants, and scientific and training institutes from across the globe to exchange and compare experiences and knowledge for the improvement and harmonization of maritime navigation services worldwide.

The work of IALA in creating technical guidance documentation, and in training and capacity building, is focused towards achieving the goals of a Strategic Vision by 2026.

IALA encourages its members to work together in a common effort to harmonize Marine Aids to Navigation (AtoN) worldwide and to ensure that the movements of vessels are safe, expeditious and cost effective while protecting the environment.

Taking into account the needs of mariners, developments in technology and the requirements and constraints of marine aids to navigation authorities, a number of technical committees have been established bringing together experts from around the world. Their work ensures that mariners have AtoN which will meet their needs both now and in the future. Thus IALA contributes to a reduction of marine accidents, increased safety of life and property at sea, as well as the protection of the marine environment.
IALA’S
CORE VALUE

CREDIBLE
To be credible means being recognized, respected, trustworthy and reliable.
- We provide a worldwide and high-quality service.
- We drive the development of state-of-the-art technologies within Marine Aids to Navigation.
- We engage the world’s leading experts to develop our products.

DYNAMIC
To be dynamic means actively and continuously striving to improve.
- We respond quickly to the needs of the maritime community.
- We adopt flexible working arrangements to stay agile.
- We encourage and stimulate innovation through awareness of global maritime developments.

RESULT-ORIENTED
To be result-oriented means to focus on outcomes rather than processes.
- We set clear objectives and goals with defined timelines.
- We create high-quality technical documents that are practical, usable and easily accessible.
- We produce outcomes that are non-political and non-commercial.

CONNECTING
To be connecting means to reach out to individuals and organizations in order to share knowledge and experience and to provide support to achieve common goals.
- We welcome individuals and organizations from around the world.
- We bring together experts and facilitate exchange of knowledge and experience.
- We assist the maritime community in meeting its international obligations.
The Strategic Vision for 2026 sets out two Goals and eight Strategies to facilitate their achievement by 2026. The two Goals are, respectively, that Marine Aids to Navigation are developed and harmonized through international cooperation and the provision of standards (Goal 1), and that all coastal States have contributed to a sustainable and efficient global network of Marine Aids to Navigation through capacity building and the sharing of expertise.
SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat is based in Saint-Germain-en-Laye, near Paris, France and consists of 12 permanent staff members. Additionally, several experts and consultants assist the Secretariat in various areas.

Staff is organized into three different divisions:
- Technical Operations,
- Administration and Finance,
- World-Wide Academy.

There are
- 6 male and
- 6 female staff
- from 9 different nationalities.

IALA has managed the challenge of quickly dealing with the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic. Proactive reaction has enabled the successful use of working from home and the setting up of technological infrastructure as well as good organization within the Secretariat. The activities of IALA and the technical work continued uninterrupted during the year.

The Secretary-General acts as the legal representative of IALA and oversees the operations of the Association.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEETINGS</th>
<th>PARTICIPANTS</th>
<th>COUNTRIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workshop on DGNSS</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARM 11</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARM 12</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENAV 26</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 12</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTS 49</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAP 39</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAP 40</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAP 21</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council 71</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council 72</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diplomatic conference</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WWA seminar</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CATEGORIES

IALA comprises four membership categories:

1. **National** membership:
   National Authorities legally responsible for the provision, maintenance or operation of Marine Aids to Navigation in their countries.

2. **Associate** membership:
   Services, organizations, scientific agencies concerned with Marine Aids to Navigation or related matters.

3. **Industrial** membership:
   Manufacturers, distributors and organizations providing Marine Aids to Navigation equipment for sale and Marine Aids to Navigation services or technical advice under contract.

4. **Honorary** membership:
   Conferred for life to individuals who are considered by the Council to have made an important contribution to the work of IALA.
In 2020, IALA was joined by one National member, seven Associates members and twenty-two Industrial members, bringing the number of applications to 30 which is 5% more compared to 2019.

**National membership was joined by:**
- Service de Navigation Maritime d’Haïti (SEMANAH), bringing the number of National members to 88 in 2020.

**The following organisations joined as Associate members:**
- The Namibian Ports Authority
- Nigeria Marine Coastguard Voluntary Services
- Port Authority of Kribi in Cameroon
- Instituto Costarricense de Puertos del Pacífico in Costa Rica
- Victorian Regional Channels Authority in Australia
- Cerema EMF in France
- Port of Antwerp in Belgium

**In 2020, Associate membership of IALA consists of 72.**

**IALA has also welcomed the following Industrial members in 2020:**
- MPS International in Suriname
- QingDao Hotech Automated Technology Co Ltd and Ningbo Botai Plastic Technology Co Ltd in the People’s Republic of China
- Harmoz Berkeh, Ertebat Electronic Gil in Iran
- Maritime Atlántic Global S.A.S in Columbia
- International Transportation Mgmt P.A in the United States of America
- NORBIT Aptomar AS in Norway
- CNS Systems AB in Sweden
- Invelco S.A in Spain
- Crux Marine in Argentina
- Sabik Offshore GmbH in Germany
- Tridel Technologies Private Ltd in India
- AMG Microwave in France
- Sternula APS in Denmark
- Cyprus Turkish Coastal Safety and Salvage Limited Company
- Anayurt Savunma San Ltd, Sti and Koç Savunma in Turkey
- PT. Lestari Marina Utama and PT Geotindo Mitra Kencana in Indonesia
- Offshore Maritime Subsea Advanced Technologies Inc. in the Philippines
- Nash Maritime Ltd in United Kingdom and Xanatos Marine Ltd in Canada which was reinstated with its seniority
- Norbit Aptomar AS in Norway
- CNS Systems AB in Sweden
- Invelco S.A in Spain
- Crux Marine in Argentina
- Sabik Offshore GmbH in Germany
- Tridel Technologies Private Ltd in India
- AMG Microwave in France
- Sternula APS in Denmark
- Cyprus Turkish Coastal Safety and Salvage Limited Company
- Anayurt Savunma San Ltd, Sti and Koç Savunma in Turkey
- PT. Lestari Marina Utama and PT Geotindo Mitra Kencana in Indonesia
- Offshore Maritime Subsea Advanced Technologies Inc. in the Philippines
- Nash Maritime Ltd in United Kingdom and Xanatos Marine Ltd in Canada which was reinstated with its seniority

**In 2020, IALA counted 155 Industrial members.**

The membership growth was nevertheless impacted by some resignations noted along the year and terminations proceeded by the IALA Council in December for non-payment of contributions after the Secretariat had exhausted all efforts to collect their debts.

**On 31st December 2020, IALA membership consist of 315 in the above three categories and in addition 42 Honorary members.**
EVOLUTION

The figure below shows the membership evolution in the last ten Years and the map gives an overview of the IALA National membership around the world in 2020.

MEMBERSHIP EVOLUTION (ALL CATEGORIES) SINCE 2000

[Chart showing membership evolution from 1995 to 2025 for National, Industrial, and Associate categories]

[Map showing IALA National membership around the world in 2020]
IALA NATIONAL MEMBER IN 2020

IALA NATIONAL MEMBERS IN THE WORLD IN 2020

- Countries in which IALA has National Members
- Countries in which IALA has no National Members

88 National Members  
155 Industriel Members  
72 Associate Members
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly brings together members from all the IALA membership categories every four years and usually convenes in conjunction with the four-yearly IALA Conference.

National members attending the General Assembly are entitled to:

- determine the IALA strategy
- elect members to the Council
- decide upon changes to the IALA Constitution
- decide on IALA Standards (from 2018 onwards)

Associate and Industrial members are entitled to attend the General Assembly and take part in the discussions, but they do not have the right to vote.

COUNCIL

IALA is headed by a President elected by the Council.

The Council comprises 21 elected and three non-elected members. It approves the strategic direction, the annual budget, and the rates for members’ annual contributions.

The three non-elected members are a National member of the Host Nation (France), the National member which hosted the previous IALA Conference and the National member which will host the next Conference.
**FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE (FAC)**

The Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) consists of five members who are elected from amongst the members of the IALA Council. The FAC elects its Chair, who acts as IALA Treasurer.

The role of the FAC is to provide, twice a year to the Council, recommendations related to financial matters including the execution of the budget; investments; audit observations and the status of membership contributions.

**POLICY ADVISORY PANEL (PAP)**

The Deputy Secretary-General chairs meetings of the Policy Advisory Panel (PAP), which advises the Council on strategy and policy matters related to the technical activities. The PAP convenes twice a year and its members include the four Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs, the Chair of the Legal Advisory Panel, the Dean of the World-Wide Academy and a member of the Industrial Members Committee.

**LEGAL ADVISORY PANEL (LAP)**

The Legal Advisory Panel (LAP) is an advisory body to the Council on legal aspects of all technical activities. The LAP also took intensive part in the work on the planned change of IALA status, mainly through extraordinary meetings. During the period under review the LAP was chaired by Ms Christina Schneider of Germany. The LAP meets normally twice a year.

**COMMITTEES**

Committees are the ‘engine room’ of IALA. They are organized in 4 work domains as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AtoN Requirements and Management (ARM)</th>
<th>Engineering and Sustainability (ENS)</th>
<th>e-Navigation Information Services and Communications (ENAV)</th>
<th>Vessel Traffic Services (VTS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WG 1 Navigational Requirements</td>
<td>WG 1 Light and vision physics</td>
<td>WG 1 Digital information system</td>
<td>WG 1 Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WG 2 Information Services and Portrayal</td>
<td>WG Technical knowledge and sustainability</td>
<td>WG 2 Emerging digital technology</td>
<td>WG 2 Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WG 3 Risk management</td>
<td>WG 3 Radionavigation services</td>
<td>WG 3 Digital communication system</td>
<td>WG 3 VTS Training</td>
</tr>
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<td>WG 4 Heritage Forum</td>
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www.iala-aism.org
The Industrial members form an integral part of the IALA family and the ARM, ENG, VTS and ENAV Committees is where they jointly provide valuable technical knowledge and first-hand experience to IALA. The Industrial Members Committee (IMC), which consists of six elected companies Industrial members of IALA, is the organ that takes care of the Industrial members’ interests within IALA. The IMC is an observer at IALA Council and at meetings of the Policy Advisory Panel.

The IMC for the year 2020 comprised the following:

**Americas:** Tideland Signal Corporation (USA)

**Asia/Oceania:** Zeni Lite Buoy Co Ltd. (Japan)

**Europe/Africa:** Sabik (Finland)

**Brazil (next Conference host):** Arbo Plasticos Rotomoldados Ltda

**Member at large:** Australian Maritime Systems (Australia)

**Member at large:** Sealite Pty Ltd. (Australia)

At its Mid-term meeting on 6th October 2020 the Industrial members agreed on revised Terms of Reference for the IMC and also to develop an industry code of conduct for IALA. The purpose of an industry code is to ensure industry compliance with an agreed set of objectives that benefit workers, employers and consumers. These objectives concern the promotion of best industry practice, improving safety standards and enhancing consumer confidence.

The draft new Terms of Reference and the draft Code of Conduct will be agreed at the next General Assembly of the Industrial members during the conference in Brazil in May 2023.
ADOPTION OF THE TEXT AND SIGNING OF THE CONVENTION

The Convention on the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation was adopted at a Diplomatic Conference in Kuala Lumpur in February 2020 after three preparatory conferences in Istanbul in March 2019, in Marrakech in February 2018 and in Paris in April 2017. The development of a set of new General Regulations, including financial regulations, is well advanced and the final draft is envisaged to be agreed at the first General Assembly of the new intergovernmental organization (IGO). Meanwhile, the draft Headquarters Agreement is under development and will be finalized in cooperation with the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France.

The Convention was signed 27th January 2021 by France, represented by Mrs. Annick Girardin, Minister for Marine Affairs. France, being the host Country and also the depositary State, was the first to sign the Convention.

This event marked the opening for signature of the Convention for a period of one year. All Member States of the United Nations, and in particular the other signatories of the Final Act of the Kuala Lumpur Conference, were invited to sign the Convention at the Protocol of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, and then to proceed to its ratification.

The certified versions of the Convention in the official languages of the organization, Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish, can be found on the IALA web site https://www.iala-aism.org/the-igo-project/

SMOOTH TRANSITION

The Convention contains robust arrangements for a smooth transition. These will ensure that the activities of IALAs organs and its technical work in the area of Marine Aids to Navigation (AtoN) will continue uninterrupted and that its responsibilities towards the maritime community will be undiminished and maintained with the customary high level of commitment and expertise.

The change of status will mark a major milestone in the life of IALA. However, it will not, in any way, change the principal aim of IALA, which is, as stated in its present Constitution, “to foster the safe, economic and efficient movement of vessels”. Under the new Convention, IALA will also remain a consultative technical organization.

STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

IALA has worked in close partnership with other international organizations for decades and wishes this collaboration to continue and grow. Elevating the status of IALA to that of an IGO will make it a peer to organizations such as the International Maritime Organization, the International Telecommunication Union, the World Meteorological Organization and the International Hydrographic Organization, thereby strengthening existing cooperation. Furthermore, it will allow for a broader participation in IALA by States, at government level. This will assist IALA’s aim to promote the greatest possible uniformity in AtoN, in the spirit of the SOLAS Convention.

Further in this regard, IALA is mindful of the United Nations Convention on the Law of
the Sea (UNCLOS), which, under Article 266, requires States that are Parties to UNCLOS to cooperate “through competent international organizations” to promote the development and transfer of marine technology. IALA is already fully engaged with and will continue to be dedicated to promoting technical cooperation on all matters related to the development and transfer of expertise and technology in relation to AtoN. In this context, it is committed to keeping pace with emerging technologies, as appropriate, and working closely together with its Industrial members around the world, as well as with national government agencies and AtoN authorities and other international and intergovernmental organizations.

The objectives and activities of IALA as an IGO will continue to be complementary to those of its peer IGOs. By working together with partner IGOs, with the respective mandate, role, and responsibilities of each transparent, mutually supportive, and commonly accepted, work will become more effective through better coordination and greater integration of standards. Any overlap or duplication would also be easier to avoid and the resulting creation of synergies would optimize available resources in the interests of the efficient movement of vessels, expeditious shipping traffic, maritime safety and protection of the environment.

THE CONVENTION

The Convention draws on the principles and provisions of the present IALA Constitution and those of the conventions of sister organizations. With respect to the position of Industrial members, the Convention follows the approach of the Convention of the World Tourism Organization (UNTWO), which designates companies involved in the business of promoting tourism as Affiliate members to ensure their inclusion as an important category of its membership. The existing Industrial members of IALA will thus become Affiliate members of IALA as an IGO and this will ensure the continued, strong cohesion between AtoN authorities and providers that has always been important for the work of IALA.

IGO status will best support the aims and activities of IALA into the future. It will benefit the Member States and members, other International Organizations and their Member States, as well as the shipping industry by continuous improvement and enhanced harmonization of AtoN and related services to the benefit of safety of navigation, efficiency of shipping traffic and protection of the environment. The Convention provides for a fit-for-purpose international legal framework that ensures transparency and good governance, strengthens the position of IALA to work in close collaboration with Governments and other IGOs, and fosters its technical and consultative work as the leading international expert body concerned with AtoN and related services.

Arrangements for signing the Convention can be made by contacting the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Alex Lavaud: alex.lavaud@diplomatie.gouv.fr

www.iala-aism.org | 21
FINANCIAL RESULTS

FINANCIAL POSITION
By Christine PHILIP, Finance and Administration Manager

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated restrictions implemented by the French government as of 17 March 2020, the Organization has implemented teleworking procedures for all staff as well as regulatory and financial measures to maintain the continuity of its activity and operations. IALA has closed its financial year with a net consolidated surplus of €254,363. The main source of income of the Organization comes from the annual contributions of its 315 members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME STATEMENT (IN €)</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating income</td>
<td>3 692 033</td>
<td>3 637 178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>3 436 991</td>
<td>3 489 272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OPERATING RESULT</strong></td>
<td><strong>255 042</strong></td>
<td><strong>147 906</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and other financial income</td>
<td>9 731</td>
<td>17 822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and other financial expenses</td>
<td>1 283</td>
<td>4 189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FINANCIAL RESULT</strong></td>
<td><strong>8 447</strong></td>
<td><strong>13 632</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceptional income</td>
<td>31 713</td>
<td>31 589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceptional expenses</td>
<td>38 695</td>
<td>11 917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extraordinary result</td>
<td>(6 982)</td>
<td>19 671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME TAX</strong></td>
<td><strong>2 144</strong></td>
<td><strong>1 064</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income</td>
<td>3 733 478</td>
<td>3 686 590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>3 479 114</td>
<td>3 506 443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET RESULT FOR THE PERIOD</strong></td>
<td><strong>254 363</strong></td>
<td><strong>180 146</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The World-Wide Academy is wholly funded from direct or in-kind sponsorship from external donors including the International Foundation for Aids to Navigation (IFAN), IMO, France, Malaysia, Republic of Korea and Singapore.

The Academy operates under a separate budget based on an annual work programme endorsed by the Academy Board, which meets twice a year. Unexpended funds in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, are carried over to the following year for continued project implementation according to the approved Master Plan.

### WWA EXPENSES IN 2020 (IN EUROS)

- **Education & Training**: 183,183
- **Capacity Building**: 168,253
- **Research & Development**: 196,427
- **Other Academy related**: 103,657
- **Permanent staff’s costs**: 32,782

The detailed financial statements presented in a consolidated form, together with the statutory report of the auditor, are available on the IALA website.
Workshop on DGNSS, Scotland

The workshop on the Future of Marine Radiobeacon DGPS/DGNSS was held between the 27 and 31 January 2020 at the Northern Lighthouse Board Headquarters, Edinburgh, Scotland.

The workshop was very well attended by 49 participants from 22 countries.

Taking into consideration some of these key findings, a draft guideline was produced.
The 39th session of PAP was held at IALA Headquarters from 19 to 21 February 2020. The PAP was updated on the latest decisions made at Council that have an impact on the work of the Committees. The work programme, cross-Committee cooperation and the results of Committee participant surveys were discussed. The outcomes of the recent Workshop on the Future of Marine Radiobeacon DGPS/DGNSS were considered by the PAP. The PAP agreed that the ARM and VTS committees review the AtoN and VTS related elements of the IMO IMSAS Auditors Manual with a view to PAP40 considering to prepare a proposal for an amendment to the IMO. Progress was reviewed with respect to the preparation of the IALA Workshop on Cyber Security and the coordination of Cyber Security measures across the technical committees was discussed.

The IALA position on MASS was considered by the panel and a Workshop proposal ‘Marine Aids to Navigation in the Autonomous World’, to be held in Tokyo, Japan, back to back with ENAV27 was finalised for Council approval. Initial preparations and the roadmap for the review and update of the IALA Standards at the 2022 General Assembly was considered. The PAP agreed to hold a discussion at PAP40 on the drivers and trends document to ascertain any future impact on the structure of the technical committees.

Diplomatic Conference and WWA Seminar, Malaysia

The Diplomatic Conference held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 25 to 28 February 2020 reached the result it was aiming at. This Conference marked a very important step for IALA as the Convention for the future Organization under intergovernmental status was adopted. More than 239 persons from 62 States participated in the Conference or were observers. Delegates with credentials from 50 States signed the Final Act of the Conference adopting the text of the Convention and two resolutions: one resolution on languages of the Organization and one on the signing ceremony in Paris in November 2020.

The World-Wide Academy Seminar on the Safety of Navigation, Effective Implementation of IALA Standards was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on the 24th February 2020, the day before the Diplomatic Conference started. The event was very successful with 130 participants. The programme was divided in 3 sections: Introduction of IALA Standards; IALA Standards in practice; How to claim compliance with IALA Standards. Many delegates attending the conference took the opportunity to follow the discussion of the seminar about the importance of IALA Standards.
MARCH

VTS48, ENAV25 and ENG11 were cancelled

ARM11, Argentina

The 11th Session of the ARM Committee was held at Centro Argentino de Ingenieros (CAI), Buenos Aires, Argentina from 9 to 13 March 2020. The session was attended by 46 participants from 20 countries. 4 participants attended for the first time. The Committee continued the work for the 2018-2022 work period. Working in three working groups, the Committee considered 48 input papers and produced 44 output and working documents. The Committee completed the review of Guideline 1143 Ed.2 Unique Identifiers for Maritime Resources and this will now be forwarded to Council for approval. An Input paper to Council regarding the withdrawal of G1072 and input to the Cyber Security Workshop Steering Committee was also produced.

JUNE

Council71, virtual meeting

The 71st session of the IALA Council took place by videoconference on the 3rd and 4th of June. All councilors were present.

The Secretary-General reported that after the successful Diplomatic Conference in Kuala Lumpur at the end of February, alongside with what happened throughout the world, IALA had to shut down to limit the COVID-19 pandemic. IALA had to take measures to cancel meetings whilst keeping the work programme going as much as possible through virtual meetings. More virtual meetings should go ahead for the rest of the year 2020. He also indicated that a new staff member was recruited, Mr Jaime Alvarez, in the technical department. 13 countries wished to report on National matters, including topics going from organizational changes within authorities, climate change, cyber-security, the future of DGPS and SBAS, etc. They all covered the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their activities. The Secretary-General reported about the Diplomatic Conference held in Kuala Lumpur. He indicated that it had reached its aim. The convention text was adopted and the final act signed by 50 countries. The final document translated in 6 languages was made available on the website.

The World Marine Aids to Navigation Day planed in Bulgaria was postponed and the event planed in Japan in November was maintained for the time being. Updates would be made available, should the situation evolve
World Marine Aids to Navigation Day

Not even the pandemic of COVID-19 could stop the celebration of the World Marine Aids to Navigation (WAtoN) Day 2020, which was celebrated virtually through social media. The engagement by members and the wider maritime community across the world was outstanding. Whether it was through companies, organizations or individuals, images of Marine Aids to Navigation ‘at work’ flowed through all social media for some 48 hours as all time zones participated in this unique event. In accordance with the decision of the General Assembly, taken at its 13th Session in Incheon, Republic of Korea on 29th May 2018 and published as Resolution A13.04, the objectives of the WAtoN Day are:

- 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 obvious enthusiasm and remarkable success of the day were truly appreciated and IALA wishes to thank all those who contributed to make it such a brilliant event.
PAP40, Virtual meeting

The 40th session of PAP was held virtually for the first time over three sessions on 31 August and the 2 and 3 September 2020. The current Work Programme and cross-committee cooperation were discussed.

The PAP noted updates on many items including:
- IMSAS
- S-200 / S-201
- Maritime Resource Name (MRN)
- e-Navigation Operational Service Description

The PAP agreed a plan to agree the Work Programme 2022-2026. Participants will be requested to start submitting task item proposals to the committees in the first half of 2021. PAP members welcomed the efforts made by the Secretariat to prepare for the virtual committees. In order to increase the efficiency and user experience the Secretariat have been working on tools for participants to utilise during the virtual committee season. These tools have taken the form of a dashboard (that includes a fileshare, calendar and bulletin board) and also a mail group (as the main means of communication to the participants of each committee).

VTS49, Virtual meeting

The 49th meeting of the VTS Committee was held from 21 September to 15 October 2020 virtually. 172 Participants from 34 countries, four Sister organisations participated in VTS49. 67 participants attended for the first time. As VTS48 was cancelled due to the Covid-19 crisis and consequently this was the fourth meeting for the 2018-2022 Work Programme and the VTS Committee considered 97 input papers, with many being carried forward from the cancelled VTS48, and produced 27 output papers from three Working Groups.

PAP noted the proposed plan of work included in the input paper for the update of Standards for their anticipated approval at the General Assembly of 2022 in accordance with Article 7.3 of the Constitution. PAP noted that due to the heavy workload of the committees, there may be a delay in beginning the revisions. The Secretariat will liaise with LAP regarding any legal considerations that may need to be taken into account with the transition to an IGO.
OCTOBER

ENAV26, Virtual meeting

The 26th meeting of the ENAV Committee was held for first time in virtually from 29 September to 23 October 2020; chaired by Hideki Noguchi and vice-chaired by Jorge Arroyo. The Secretary for the meeting was Jaime Alvarez.

There were 136 participants from 28 countries and four Sister organisations, 9 for the first time. There were four observers. This was the 4th meeting for the 2018-2022 Work Programme and the Committee considered 68 input papers and produced output papers from three Working Groups.

ENG12, Virtual meeting

The 12th meeting of the ENG Committee (ENG12) was held for first time in IALA virtually from 30 September to 16 October 2020. The session was attended by 128 registered participants from 31 countries. 35 participants attended for the first time. Working in four working groups, the Committee considered 58 input papers and produced 13 output documents.

ARM12, Virtual meeting

The 12th Session of the ARM Committee was held virtually from 28 September to 22 October 2020. 110 Participants from 32 countries and two Sister organisations participated in ARM12. 28 participants attended for the first time. The Committee continued the work for the 2018-2022 work period. Working in three working groups, the Committee considered 66 input papers and produced 36 output and working documents. The meeting was carried out in accordance with the Virtual Committee Arrangements online. Approximately 66 meetings were arranged.
The meeting of the Industrial members mid-term assembly was held by video conference on the 6 October 2020. The meeting was chaired by the president Mr Marcel Tetu and was attended by 29 participants. The president started by acknowledging the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic on the whole industry, indicating how difficult it has been for many companies across the world. Regarding the IMC Terms of Reference, it was raised that it would need some changes in view of preparation for the change of status of the organization from non-governmental to intergovernmental. Also, an IMC code of conduct will be developed in cooperation with the IALA secretariat. The code of conduct would benefit the members and IALA. The members were invited to join the process and contribute to make the document that will be presented at the General Assembly in Brazil in 2022.

**LAP21, Virtual meeting**

The 21st session of the Legal Advisory Panel was held by videoconference from 13 to 15 October 2020. LAP noted the reports from council 71, PAP40 and the last committee session. LAP reviewed the text of the Council Decision on Transitional Arrangements from the KL Convention to be sent to Council 72 for consideration. LAP reviewed the Basic Documents to be sent to Council72 for consideration. LAP considered the input paper from ARM on the revision of IMSAS Manual 2014 Annex 3 and made a minor editorial change. LAP considered the input paper from ARM about IALA Regions at the poles and issued advice to be considered by the ARM committee. The rest of the meeting was routine business including the review of the Risk Registers for IALA and the World-Wide Academy.
DECEMBER

Council72, Virtual meeting

The 72nd session of the Council meeting was held virtually from 8 to 10 December 2020. The Secretary-General reported that since the last council session the world had still been in the grip of the COVID-19 Pandemic and the Staff has continued all the precautionary measures to avoid further transmission of the virus. These measures have involved the cancellation or postponement, as appropriate, of meetings, and halting the staff’s travel for the purpose of conducting missions. The Secretariat with the support of the PAP has implemented special working arrangements for virtual meetings of the Committees and other subsidiary bodies of IALA. He also indicated that following the diplomatic conference in February 2020 in Kuala Lumpur, the convention has been translated in 6 languages and the opening for signature was planned for the beginning of January 2021. The convention would be open for signature for 12 months. With regard to finance, the budget for the year 2021 was approved. For technical matters, five recommendations and 9 guidelines were approved. The council approved 10 Industrial members, 5 Associate members. IALA membership was discontinued for 4 Industrial members and 1 Associate member.
HERITAGE LIGHTHOUSE OF THE YEAR

Council 71 decided the Santo Antônio da Barra Lighthouse, Brazil as the IALA Heritage Lighthouse of the Year 2020.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

IALA publications catalogue, Ed1.0, Dec 2020.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- R1020 Terrestrial Radionavigation Services, Ed1.0, Dec 2020.

GUIDELINES

- G1135 Effective Intensity, Ed2.0, Dec 2020.
- G1150 Establishing, Planning and Implementing VTS, Ed2.0, Dec 2020.
- G1089 Provision of a VTS, Ed2.0, Dec 2020. (This Guideline may be subject to amendment depending on the proceedings of the IMO Assembly in December 2021).
- G1157 Web Service based S-100 Data Exchange, Ed1.0, Dec 2020.
- G1158 VDES R-Mode, Ed1.0, Dec 2020.

REVOKED DOCUMENTS

Guideline 1072 - AtoN Information Exchange and Presentation
2020 AT A GLANCE

- 186 professionals from 62 countries qualified in Marine Aids to Navigation Management
- 4 Technical Needs Assessment and Review Missions conducted
- 12 international awareness events and meetings attended
- 681 engaged in events organized by the academy

- 23 Professionals for 7 countries qualified in AtoN management
- 4 Technical needs assessment and review missions conducted
- 12 international awareness events and meetings attended
- 681 engaged in events organized by the academy
STRATEGY – GETTING ALL COASTAL STATES ONBOARD.

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 Academy aims 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.

To achieve these goals, the Academy undertakes a wide range of activities based on three simple principles:

1. **ENLIGHTEN**
   raise the awareness of high-level decision makers of their international obligations relating to safety of navigation

2. **EDUCATE**
   provide a suite of relevant education and training opportunities for as many as possible

3. **ENGAGE**
   pursue long-term capacity building activities with coastal States and provide advice on how overcome challenges

In support of the United Nations Delivering as One approach, the Academy cooperates with and coordinates its activities with other international organizations, underpinning the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
ENLIGHTENING – RAISING THE AWARENESS OF HIGH-LEVEL DECISION MAKERS.

Despite the challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Academy has remained active throughout 2020 in the promotion of the SOLAS requirements related to both Aids to Navigation and Vessel Traffic Services and the benefits of implementing the IALA standards.

In the margins of the IALA Diplomatic Conference, held early in 2020, the Academy team met with many representatives from of its target coastal States and several missions and events were agreed. Unfortunately, the pandemic soon prevented any face-to-face meetings, and the Academy was forced to conduct its activities virtually or alternatively postpone events. In conjunction with the conference, the Academy conducted its second seminar on “Effective Implementation of IALA Standards” which attracted 130 high-level decision makers from the 52 countries attending the Diplomatic Conference in Kuala Lumpur.

The Academy developed a webinar concept aimed at enlightening, educating and engaging individuals world-wide. A successful webinar, aimed at French speaking countries in Africa, took place in October as a follow-up to the awareness seminar that was conducted in 2019 in Rabat, Morocco. The webinar was well attended and featured an excellent address by the Minister for Scientific Research and Technological Innovation of the Republic of Congo. A large and diverse audience was reached through the conduct of a webinar with The Nautical Institute. Some 438 attendees joined the webinar from a wide range of organisations and maritime backgrounds.

Contact has remained strong with sister organisations, particularly the IMO and other organizations who are part of the United Nations Delivering as One’ partnership. Work has continued with the IMO. The Academy was represented at the Technical Cooperation Committee and acted as one of the rapporteurs during the United Nations Decade Western Tropical Atlantic Regional Workshop. The Academy has continued to be represented at various regional hydrographic commissions which have been conducted online.

Once IALA transforms into an intergovernmental organization, the six official languages of the United Nations will be used. Currently the Academy operates primarily in English and French but in 2020 the newly developed Spanish Support Team concept matured significantly. During the preparatory Diplomatic Conference in Morocco, several Spanish speaking countries volunteered up to contribute to this concept and it is envisaged that the translation of IALA publications into Spanish can now be accelerated.
Although the opportunities for face-to-face training were severely restricted during 2020, the Academy made significant progress in the development and modernization of its suite of training programmes. Work to modernize and refresh the popular Level 1.1 Marine Aids to Navigation Manager and Level 1.3 IALA Risk Management Tools programmes commenced. This included the development of new and interactive learning materials for online and distance learning using modern software as well as the redevelopment of the course materials used by the accredited training organizations. This included a new suite of textbooks for the Aids to Navigation Manager course.

The new learning materials use modern educational software to allow participants to interact with the subjects at hand as well as embedding activities, custom made videos and the practical use of the IALA standards to consolidate learning.

Further investment has been made in developing the IALA Learning Management System to provide an enhanced digital learning platform both for participants studying through online distance learning as well as to provide a resource to accredited training organizations.

The courses related to the IALA Risk Management Tools have been completely redesigned to enable more focus to be given to each of the tools. This enables participants to select the tools that are of maximum practical benefit for their individual operational needs through making the course modular in nature. In late 2020, a pilot course commenced with the State Hydrographic Service of the Ukraine to train them in risk assessment using the IWRAP Mk2 tool. The new modular style courses have received positive feedback and will be available in spring 2021 through online distance learning and face-to-face training as soon as is practicable.

In terms of practical implementation, the Academy continued to develop its proactive relationship with the ASEAN Regional Training Centre for VTS in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Academy supported the delivery of a V-103/1 VTS Operator course which was regretfully cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Academy has continued to actively participate in the ASEAN VTS Expert Group and has supported their planning to recommence VTS training as soon as is reasonably practicable.

The Academy has continued to support the VTS community and successfully hosted an online workshop on VTS training and qualifications, 2020 and beyond. The primary objective of the workshop was to obtain first-hand information from those involved in VTS operations and training to enable the IALA VTS Committee to review and update the IALA V-103/1 VTS Operator Model Course by identifying the current needs of the profession and assessing the key competencies desired against the existing curriculums. Some 51 participants from 23 countries participated in the workshop which was fully subscribed.

The Academy has also developed new courses during 2020 in addition to the comprehensive programme of updates to the existing range. A major milestone has been the creation of a new course on the principles of effective procurement. This course covers content such as the preparation of business cases, specifications and tenders in a manner consistent with best industry practice and taking account of the relevant IALA standards.

The pandemic has enabled a new way of working and facilitated the effective combination of the enlightenment and education limbs of the Academy strategy. This was effectively demonstrated with a project with the Ministry of Ports and Marine Transport in Somalia. During consultations on the planned reinstatement of aids to navigation in the port of Mogadishu it was identified that training in both risk management and procurement would be beneficial to supplement the skills
of the three IALA qualified Marine Aids to Navigation managers in the country.

Through conducting both simultaneous capacity building and education programmes online, the Ministry of Ports and Marine Transport were able to complete a risk assessment using the IALA Simplified Risk Assessment method and prepare for procuring the necessary aids to navigation infrastructure through piloting the newly developed procurement training.

During 2020 close contact was maintained with the global network of accredited training organizations. In particular, the Academy was pleased to provide support to the Pacific Community in their application to gain accreditation for the Level 1.1 Marine Aids to Navigation Manager course as a formally recognized micro qualification in the Pacific region. Such accreditation and international recognition will significantly enhance the professional status of Marine Aids to Navigation Managers and the IALA standards framework in general.
ENGAGING – PURSUING LONG-TERM CAPACITY BUILDING

Due to the pandemic, the programme of capacity building activities, which normally relies heavily on face-to-face contact and on-site activities has been severely disrupted. However, contact has been maintained with all coastal State partners where missions or other activities were scheduled with a view to the early resumption of activities when the situation permits safe travel or to undertake online activities as an alternative.

Technical Needs Assessment Missions to Haiti and Cyprus took place early in the year. The objective of both missions was to assess the adequateness and effectiveness of systems in place for providing Aids to Navigation services. Although the mission to Haiti had to be aborted due to the onset of travel restrictions, the dialogue has continued online, following up on the mission. An officer from Haiti is currently studying for the Level 1.1 Marine Aids to Navigation Manager qualification and the next step will be a risk assessment course. Haiti is now an active member of IALA.

Online activities are in progress with several countries. An online “micro-Seminar” was conducted with Belize Port Authority, following up on recommendations provided during a mission to Belize in 2017. Significant progress was noted and, in due time, Belize will be able to claim conformance to the IALA standards. Belize Port Authority has requested further assistance from the Academy to enhance their capacity to enable them to conduct risk assessments in line with their SOLAS obligations.

In 2020 the primary sponsors have stood by the Academy and maintained their generous support which is appreciated by all those who utilize the services of the Academy. The never-ending work on seeking further funding for the Academy continues.
ANNUAL REPORT
2020

SUCCESSFUL VOYAGES, SUSTAINABLE PLANET

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