



Circular Letter 2023/10

10 July 2023

Subject: **IALA will soon become an Intergovernmental Organization**

To: National Members

Dear Member,

As you are probably aware, the change of status of IALA to an Intergovernmental Organization (IGO) is now entering the final phase. The Convention on the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation will enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the thirtieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval, or accession.

At the date of this letter, twenty-two States have completed this formal process. We do not know when the required number will be reached, but we are preparing for transition to the new Organization so that IALA's vital work continues without interruption.

### **Transition arrangements**

A General Assembly must be held within six months after the IGO is created. During that period the current IALA structures, rules, contributions, and arrangements will apply with minor modifications. The General Assembly will approve its own Regulations, which we expect to be modelled significantly on those currently in place.

However, in accordance with the annex to the Convention, the relevant Transition arrangements for your organization to remain a part of IALA from its commencement are as follows:

**[5]** All National Members of the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities from States that are not Member States shall, subject to their formal request, become Associate Members of the Organization for a duration of up to ten years from the date of entry into force of this Convention, unless the General Assembly decides to extend that period.

For current national members from countries that have not yet formalized arrangements to become parties to the Convention, this means that you can still participate in IALA with the new status of Associate member for up to ten years. You cannot be elected to Council or vote but can participate in all other aspects of IALA's activities, and we look forward to your continued contribution.



The text of the Convention, which outlines membership rights and obligations, and more information can be found on the web site <https://www.iala-aism.org/the-igo-project/>.

### Next steps

To ensure that your organization becomes an Affiliate member of the new IALA with no interruption to its rights, I **invite you to fill out and return the attached *Membership Transfer Form*** to the Secretariat at [Lorraine.mbong@iala-aism.org](mailto:Lorraine.mbong@iala-aism.org) at your earliest convenience.

IALA will be then proud to continue its cooperation with your organization under its new status.

Should you have any questions you are always welcome to contact me or the Secretariat at [secgen@iala-aism.org](mailto:secgen@iala-aism.org).

Sincerely yours,



Francis Zachariae  
Secretary-General



## MEMBERSHIP TRANSFER FORM / FORMULAIRE DE TRANSFERT D'ADHESION

From the International Association for Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities to the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation/ De l'Association Internationale de Signalisation Maritime à l'Organisation internationale pour les aides à la navigation maritime

Organisation or Company / Organisation ou société .....

Membership Reference\*/ Référence de Membre\* .....

Representative's Name / Nom du (de la ) représentant (e) .....

Position / Fonction .....

Address / Adresse: .....

Country / Pays .....

Telephone: .....

e-mail .....

I hereby request that our membership be transferred/ Par la présente, je demande le transfert de notre adhésion

From / De

To / A

Current Category <i>Catégorie actuelle</i>	New Category <i>Nouvelle catégorie</i>	Description	Select <i>Cochez</i>
National Member <i>Membre National</i>	Associate Member <i>Membre Associé</i>	Authority legally responsible for the provision of marine aids to navigation in its country/ <i>Autorité légalement responsable de la fourniture des aides à la navigation</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial Member <i>Membre industriel</i>	Affiliate Member <i>Membre Affilié</i>	Manufacturer, distributor or consultant in aids to navigation/ <i>Fabricant, distributeurs d'aides à la navigation ou ingénieur conseil</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Associate Member <i>Membre associé</i>	Affiliate Member <i>Membre Affilié</i>	Port, scientific organization or service responsible for aids to navigation in a specific area/ <i>Port, organisation scientifique ou service responsable d'aides à la navigation au niveau régional</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\*not mandatory, the IALA Secretariat will complete that section/\*non obligatoire, le secrétariat de l'AIMS pourra compléter cette section

This change will take effect when the Convention on the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation enters into force/Ce changement prendra effet lors de l'entrée en force de la Convention portant création de l'Organisation internationale pour les aides à la navigation maritime.

Date.....Signature.....