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CIRCULAR LETTER 70/2012
12 July 2012

58TH SESSION OF THE IMO SUB-COMMITTEE ON SAFETY OF NAVIGATION

Reference: IHB CL 57/2012 dated 30 May (Report on MSC90)

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The 58th session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation (NAV58) was held at IMO Headquarters in London from 2 - 6 July 2012. The IHO was represented by Vice Admiral Maratos - President, Director, Robert Ward and Assistant Directors Huet and Wyatt. Heads and representatives from sixteen Hydrographic Offices also attended the meeting as part of national delegations.

2 The IHO delegation mounted a poster display in the delegates' refreshment area for the duration of the meeting. The display provided information on the benefits of membership of the IHO. A presentation was also given during one lunch break. This resulted in some non IHO Member States asking for more information and follow-up action.

3 The agenda for NAV58 included:

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| Agenda Item 3 | "Routeing of ships, ship reporting and related matters"; |
| Agenda Item 6 | "Development of an e-navigation strategy implementation plan"; |
| Agenda Item 7 | "Development of policy and new symbols for AIS aids to navigation."; and |
| Agenda Item 13 | "Any Other Business" - Information on the development of the IALA World-Wide Academy and Operating Anomalies Identified within ECDIS. |

all of which will be of particular interest to IHO Member States. The report of the NAV58 meeting (NAV58/14), when available, will be placed on the IHO web site at:

<http://www.iho.int/english/external-liaisons/int-organization-documents-organisations-internationales---documents-pertinents/imo-omi.html>

Agenda Item 3 - Routeing of Ships, Ship Reporting and related matters

4 The Sub-Committee approved: amendments to existing and the establishment of new routeing measures off the coasts of the Netherlands and Belgium and in the Gulf of Finland; amendments to existing mandatory Australian Ship Reporting System; establishment of a mandatory No Anchoring Area for Saba Bank, Caribbean Netherlands; establishment of areas to be avoided off the Ningaloo coast, Western Australia, and the southwest coast of Brazil; establishment of a mandatory ship reporting system in the Barents Sea; and amendments to 4 Traffic Separation Schemes (TSS). All of which will now be passed to the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) for adoption at its 91st session in November 2012. Implementation will be not less than six months after adoption by the MSC.

Agenda Item 6 - Development of an e-Navigation Strategy Implementation Plan

5 The Sub-Committee noted that COMSAR15 had endorsed the final draft list of gaps relevant to radiocommunications and search and rescue (COMSAR16/WP.5/rev.1, annex 3) and STW43 had endorsed the final draft list of gaps relevant to training (STW 43/WP.3/Rev.1, annex) and that both had been forwarded for final consideration.

6 The Sub-Committee also noted MSC90 had approved, inter alia, the proposed way forward for developing a Common Maritime Data Structure, the use of IHO's S-100 standard as the baseline for creating a framework for data access and services under the scope of SOLAS. The Sub-Committee also noted MSC90 had approved the proposed joint plan of work on e-navigation for COMSAR, NAV and STW Sub-Committees for the period 2012-2014.

7 The Sub-Committee also noted MSC90 had authorized the establishment of an IMO/IHO Harmonization Group on Data Modelling and approved the Terms of Reference.

8 The Sub-Committee re-established the e-Navigation Working group (WG) during the session and instructed it to consider a large number of documents submitted by Member States, the report of the e-Navigation intersessional Correspondence Group (CG) as well as the outcomes of NAV57, STW43 and COMSAR16. The e-Navigation WG was directed to review and revise the terms of reference for the e-Navigation CG to continue to progress work intersessionally and to report to COMSAR17, STW44 and NAV59.

9 The Sub-Committee noted the progress made by the e-Navigation WG during the session with regard to the development of the detailed on-board e-navigation architecture and invited IALA, IHO and other relevant organizations to contribute to its further development.

10 The Sub-Committee also noted that a gap analysis had been completed and it endorsed the preliminary list of potential e-navigation solutions presented by the e-Navigation WG.

11 The Sub-Committee re-established the e-Navigation CG under the Terms of Reference at Annex A, and instructed it to review the preliminary list of potential e-Navigation solutions and to finalize the Cost Benefit and Risk Analysis in preparation for NAV59. The CG was also instructed to further develop the draft Strategy Implementation Plan and also to consider the issue of software quality assurance.

Agenda Item 8 - Development of policy and new symbols for AIS aids to navigation.

12 The Sub-Committee considered the report of the intersessional CG on AIS Aids to Navigation (AtoN), which contained the first draft of the IMO policy and new symbols for AIS AtoN. The Sub-Committee was of the view that, at present, it was premature to consider the issue of new symbols, which would be better considered at NAV59.

13 A Drafting Group was established to review the draft policy on the use of AIS AtoN, prepare a draft revised text and prepare draft revised Terms of Reference for a CG to work intersessionally between NAV58 and NAV59.

14 The Drafting Group reported that further liaison was necessary to ensure standards developed by other international organizations (such as, IHO, IEC and IALA) align with the IMO developing policy. The Drafting Group also reported that AIS Application Specific Message (ASM) should be further considered in conjunction with developments of AIS AtoN policy.

15 The Sub-Committee re-established the CG, under the terms of reference at Annex B under the co-ordination of Cdr Hideki Noguchi of Japan (noguchi-i8twy@kaiho.mlit.go.jp) and instructed it to consider all relevant information and documents and to finalize a revised draft of a policy for AIS AtoN. The CG was also to develop symbols for AIS AtoN, taking into account the symbols contained in IMO SN/Circ.243 as well as other relevant guidelines, standards and publications, and to report to NAV59. The IHB will participate in the CG and IHO Member States are encouraged to consider participating in the work of the CG by contacting the Chair by email.

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Agenda Item 13 - Any Other Business

16 Information on the development of the IALA World-Wide Academy: The Sub-Committee noted the valuable development of the IALA World-Wide Academy and invited IALA to keep the sub-committee updated on progress.

17 Operating Anomalies Identified within ECDIS: The Sub-Committee noted the documents submitted to MSC90 by IHO, UK, Australia and International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and the subsequent discussions, including the decision to instruct the NAV Sub-Committee to promulgate additional information without further reference. The Sub-Committee developed and approved a draft for a new SN Circ. on operating anomalies within ECDIS. The SN Circ provides detailed descriptions of the type of anomalies that may be present in some ECDIS equipment in use at sea.

18 The Sub-Committee recognised the need for continuous monitoring of the implementation of ECDIS and any issues that may arise. The work undertaken to date by the IHO was acknowledged; NAV58 commended the technical workshop being organised by the IHO in October 2012, the IHO was also encouraged to continue its engagement and work in this area. The Sub-Committee further invited Member Governments and international organizations to submit comments and proposals for consideration at NAV59.

19 The Sub-Committee noted that MSC90 had agreed to include the following planned/unplanned outputs in the 2012-2013 biennial agenda of the Sub-Committee,:

Review and modernization of GMDSS with a target completion year of 2017;

Consolidation of ECDIS related IMO circulars with a target completion year of 2014; and

Development of explanatory footnotes to SOLAS regulations V/15, V/18, V/19 and V/27 with a target completion year of 2014.

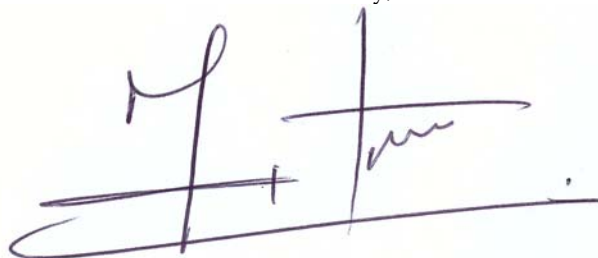
Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2012

20 The Chairman of NAV, Mr Michael Sollosi of the United States was re-elected to the Chair for 2013. The Vice Chairman, Mr Kostiantyn Billiar of Ukraine, was re-elected as the Vice Chairman for 2013.

Dates for NAV59

21 The 59th session of the Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation is provisionally scheduled to be held at the IMO in London from 2 - 6 September 2013.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'A. Maratos', written over a horizontal line.

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President

Annex A: Draft terms of Reference for e-navigation CG

Annex B: Draft terms of Reference for Aids to Navigation CG

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE E-NAVIGATION CORRESPONDENCE GROUP

1 Taking into account the revised joint plan of work for the COMSAR, NAV and STW Sub-Committees for the period 2012-2014, as approved by MSC90, the Correspondence Group on e-navigation should:

- .1 review the preliminary list of potential e-navigation solutions (NAV58/WP.6, annex 2) and, if necessary, prepare additional potential e-navigation solutions in order to address all gaps identified in annex 1 to NAV58/WP.6;
- .2 finalize the Cost Benefit and Risk Analysis, with a view to final approval by NAV59, using as input documents namely, the final list of gaps and the preliminary list of potential e-navigation solutions that would cover all the identified gaps and taking into account the Formal Safety Assessment process and the Methodology of the Human Element Analysing Process (NAV58/6, annex 3);
- .3 further develop:
 - .1 the detailed ship and shore architecture;
 - .2 the concept of Maritime Service Portfolios; and
 - .3 the draft Strategy Implementation Plan;
- .4 consider documents NAV58/6/1, NAV58/6/2 and NAV58/6/3 (Germany) and provide comments and recommendations, as appropriate;
- .5 consider the issue of software quality assurance, taking into account document NAV58/6/4 (Republic of Korea), and provide comments and recommendations, as appropriate;
- .6 progress the development of draft Guidelines for usability evaluation of navigational equipment and its harmonization with the HEAP, taking into account documents NAV58/6/6 and Corr.1, NAV58/INF.12 and NAV58/INF.13 and Corr.1 (Japan) and NAV58/INF.10 (Australia);
- .7 progress the development of draft Guidelines for the harmonization of test beds, taking into account document NAV58/6/8 (Republic of Korea);
- .8 submit reports to COMSAR17 and STW44 raising specific questions, as required, that should be addressed by the STW and COMSAR Sub-Committees; and
- .9 submit a consolidated progress report to NAV59.

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE AIS AIDS TO NAVIGATION CORRESPONDENCE GROUP

- 1 The Correspondence Group on AIS Aids to Navigation should:
 - .1 consider documents NAV58/7 and NAV58/WP.7, including comments made in plenary and any other relevant information to further review and finalize a revised draft of a policy for AIS Aids to Navigation;
 - .2 develop symbols for AIS AtoN, taking into account the symbols contained in SN/Circ.243 and other relevant guidelines, standards and publications; and
 - .3 submit a report for consideration and review to NAV59.