**10th Meeting of the Standardisation of Nautical Publications Working Group (SNPWG)
23– 27 February 2009, NOAA, Norfolk, Virginia**

Extract from FAL 35 WP.6, 16 January 2009.
Draft Report of Facilitation Committee on its 35th Session

Improving the provision and quality of nautical port information
16.3 The Committee noted MSC 83 had invited the Committee to consider the information
provided in document MSC 83/INF.19 (IHMA *et al.*) and to this end document FAL 35/INF.4
(Secretariat) has been issued. However, since the issue of FAL 35/INF.4, IHMA *et al.* have
updated the information they provided to MSC 83 and have submitted this material in document
FAL 35/INF.6. As a result the Committee did not consider document FAL 35/INF.4 as it had
been superseded by FAL 35/INF.6.

16.4 IHMA *et al.* (FAL 35/INF.6) pointed out that the various, sometimes inconsistent sources,
of nautical information required for port entry and berth/terminal usage can lead to confusion on
the part of the user. Misunderstanding or misuse of such data bears directly on ship and port
safety, the efficiency of port operations and the protection of the environment. IHMA *et al.*
suggested that it was, therefore, necessary to consider a more efficient and standardized way of
making this information available to users, including publishers of nautical information. IHMA
et al. also advised that a web-based template for the input and production of port entry
information was now available and work was underway to develop a similar system for
berths/terminals.

16.5 The Committee noted with appreciation the information provided and the initiative taken
by IHMA *et al.* for a more efficient and standardized way of making this information available to
mariners and publishers of nautical information and considered that it would be of great benefit
to mariners and port authorities.