

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE IMO/IHO HARMONIZATION
GROUP ON DATA MODELLING (HGDM)**
(MSC 90/28/Add.1 - Annex 22)

- 1 In creating an e-navigation architecture, it is important to identify information and data flows, and the interactions between applications and user interfaces. Consequently, there needs to be a data structure to optimize the use, interoperability, flow and accessibility of relevant information and data within the maritime domain (including both ship and shore aspects). It is therefore important to harmonize efforts in data modelling, with the aim of creating and maintaining a robust and extendable maritime data structure. This maritime information and data structure will require some form of overarching coordination to ensure the ongoing management and maintenance of the structure.
- 2 There may be several management roles to be performed by such a coordinating body, (for example, the maintenance of registries and the development and adoption of product specifications). This management role may be shared between relevant organizations. The structure is a highly important element by which e-navigation can modernize the operational environment of the maritime industry and also fulfil the requirement of document MSC 85/26, annex 20.
- 3 The HGDM should be constituted of representatives of IMO and IHO Member States and Secretariats, and organizations with an official IMO/IHO observer status.
- 4 The HGDM should be chaired by an IMO Member State and supported by the Secretariat of the IMO.
- 5 The HGDM reports to the IMO Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation (NAV)¹, and to the IHO through the IHB Directing Committee², as appropriate.
- 6 The HGDM should:
 - .1 as requested by the IMO or the IHO, consider matters related to the framework for data access and information services under the scope of SOLAS, using as a baseline IHO's S-100 standard, with a view to harmonize and standardize:
 - .1 formats for the collection, exchange and distribution of data;
 - .2 processes and procedures for the collection; and
 - .3 development of open standard interfaces; and
 - .2 review the results of studies by the IMO, the IHO and other related organizations which address aspects of access to information services under the scope of SOLAS, and advise the IMO and the IHO as to whether they are compatible with the e-navigation concept taking into account the identified user needs as they exist at the time.

¹ Now the IMO Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR).

² Now the IHO Secretariat.