

MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEAS HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION

24 October, 2023

MBSHC CIRCULAR LETTER No 10/2023

Subject: The IALA Convention – National Status

Reference:

- A. MBSHC 23, Action 08, "...the interest to sign the Convention on the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation..."
- B. Art. 3.d of the Statutes of MBSHC (9th Edition, April 2022)

Dear colleagues,

1. According to the adopted action No. 8. (Ref. A), MBSHC members are encouraged to communicate with their competent national authorities regarding obtaining information on the status and interest of states in signing (ratifying) the Convention on the International Organization for Navigational Aids (IALA), which is the goal to transform IALA from a non-governmental organization into an intergovernmental organization.

This activity was adopted at MBSHCC23, bearing in mind that the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), which already has the status of an intergovernmental technical-consultative organization, has been cooperating very closely and successfully with IALA for many years. By achieving the status of IALA as an IHO, the cooperation between the two organizations would be better and easier in the administrative and organizational sense. Furthermore, the representatives of IALA are trying to strengthen their important role, which they have already played in the safety of navigation segment since 1957, through the transformation that has begun. Bearing in mind that the transformation process depends on the number of members who are ready to accede to the IALA Convention, they asked the IHO to help achieve this goal through the activities of their bodies and organs in the way that it is contained in the action as it is specified in reference A.

2. As Chair of the MBSHC in accordance with the provision of Ref. B, I kindly ask you to act on your National Authority in accordance with MBSHC 23/08 (Ref. A), and provide your feedback **by mid of December 2023**.
3. A list of countries with the date of ratification of the IALA Convention is available at the link <https://www.iala-aism.org/the-igo-project/>.

Best regards,



MBSHC Chair
CHI Director
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