VTS36 Input paper

Agenda item 14.3

Task Number

Author(s) / Submitter(s) IMO Secretariat

**IMO/IALA Award for Accident Zero Campaign**

# 1 Summary

## 1.1 Purpose of the document

This document describes and outlines a process for progress in response to the Secretary-General of IMO’s ‘Zero Accident’ campaign, which was proposed at the 12th International Symposium on Vessel Traffic Services, 10 -14 September 2012 in Istanbul, Turkey.

## 1.2 Related documents

None.

# 2 Background

The VTS Committee may recall that last year during the 12th International Symposium on Vessel Traffic Services, 10 -14 September 2012 in Istanbul, Turkey, the Secretary-General of IMO took the initiative of proposing a plan of action to promote a Zero Accident Campaign. This initiative was well received and supported by the VTS Symposium.

# 3 Discussion

As a follow up to this initiative, a meeting of Group of Experts (Group) from IALA, IHO, IMO, IAPH and IMPA was organized at IMO Headquarters on 28 January 2013. In his opening remarks, the Secretary-General gave an overview of his view on his vision related to the Zero Accident campaign. He recognized that this was a very difficult task, but nonetheless through collective efforts of all concerned progress can be made over a longer time period of time. Having considered the opening remarks of the Secretary-General, the meeting agreed that:

1. Zero Accident campaign was very broad based and in order to have meaningful progress it would be better to take this in stages;
2. At this stage, it would be appropriate to consider the sea areas under VTS operations;
3. In order to launch the campaign, an IMO/IALA award for each VTS in Europe, North America and the Caribbean; South and Central America; Oceania; Asia Pacific; South and West Asia; North and West Africa and East and South Africa region based on the criteria developed and agreed by the Group;
4. IMO Secretariat will develop the Terms of Reference and criteria (similar to those relating to the Bravery Awards) for consideration and review by the IALA VTS Committee with a view to finalization by the Group;
5. After the finalization of the TORs and criteria by the Group, IALA VTS experts would review the VTS included in the Worldwide VTS Guide and provide the Group with their findings;
6. On receipt of the evaluation by the VTS experts, the Group would scrutinize the list and make its recommendation to IMO and IALA; and
7. The awards would be distributed at NAV 59 by the Secretary-General IMO.

Accordingly, the Chairman of IMO’s Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation in co-operation with the Secretary-General of IALA and relevant input from the IMO Secretariat prepared an outline plan, which shows the composition of the Panel of Experts, Terms of Reference of the Panel of Experts including the draft criteria for evaluation to assist the experts. The proposed draft outline is given at annex.

# 4 Action requested of the ComMITTEE

The Committee is requested to review the draft outline and provide its comments, as appropriate, with regard to the following:

1. Composition of the Panel of Experts;
2. Terms of Reference of the Panel of Experts; and
3. Criteria for evaluation to assist the experts.

ANNEX

**DRAFT**

**1 IMO/IALA AWARD FOR ACCIDENT ZERO CAMPAIGN**

**1.1 PANEL OF EXPERTS TO EVALUATE VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICES (VTS) DETAILED IN THE WORLD VTS GUIDE**

1. Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation
2. Secretary-General of IALA
3. Secretary-General of IMPA
4. Secretary-General of IAPH
5. Chairman of IALA VTS Committee

Including a team of two additional VTS Experts.

IFSMA

IHMA

**1.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE PANEL OF EXPERTS**

The Panel of Experts will review and evaluate the effectiveness of operation of already established VTS worldwide and listed in the World VTS Guide, with respect to the following:

Location of the VTS; volume of traffic, nature of traffic, complexity of the waterway.

VTS Systems for surveillance, communications and decision support:

VTS Guides relating to:

VHF procedures;

VTS Plans;

Reports;

Co-operation with User Groups

Pilotage; and

Services offered.

**1.3 DRAFT CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION TO ASSIST THE PANEL OF EXPERTS**

In order to have a meaningful progress towards a “Zero Accident regime”, it would be necessary to adopt a step-by-step approach. As a first step, it would be appropriate to evaluate the effectiveness of operation of already established Vessel Traffic Services in territorial waters. Based on the evaluation, it is proposed to institute an IMO/IALA award on VTS operations (e.g. demonstrated best practices, long history of innovation, no accidents for [10] years) for each VTS in Europe, North America and the Caribbean, South and Central America; Oceania; Asia Pacific, South and West Asia, North and West Africa and East and South Africa regions. It is expected that a total of four awards would be presented representing different regions of the world.

The purpose of the Award is to provide a unique, international recognition for established Vessel Traffic Services (VTS), which contribute to safety of life at sea, safety and efficiency of navigation and protection of the marine environment, adjacent shore areas, work sites and offshore installations from possible adverse effects of maritime traffic. To this end, in the first year of the award, it is proposed to evaluate VTS listed in the World VTS Guide, which provides Shipmasters and others with the information necessary to enter a VTS area and subsequently to comply with its requirements, thereby optimising efficiency and enhancing safety, in accordance with the Terms of Reference listed above.