



MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE
83rd session
Agenda item 6

MSC 83/6/Add.1
15 May 2007
Original: ENGLISH

LRIT-RELATED MATTERS

Procedure with respect to proposals received for the establishment, operation and maintenance of the International LRIT Data Exchange and International LRIT Data Centre

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document sets out the procedure with respect to proposals received for the establishment, operation and maintenance of the International LRIT Data Exchange and International LRIT Data Centre

Action to be taken: Paragraphs 8 and 9

Related documents: MSC 82/24, section 8; resolutions MSC.202(81), MSC.210(81) and MSC.211(81)

Procedure for the recognition of the International LRIT Data Exchange and International LRIT Data Centre

1 In order to ensure that the Long-range Identification and Tracking (LRIT) system will be established by 1 July 2008 and be fully operational by 31 December 2008; and in accordance with the road map established by MSC 82 (MSC 82/24, annex 16), MSC 83 is expected to designate the International LRIT Data Exchange (IDE) and International LRIT Data Centre (IDC).

2 The Committee, at its eighty-second session, designated the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) as the LRIT Co-ordinator. The functions of the LRIT Co-ordinator are set out in section 14 of the Performance standards and functional requirements for the long-range identification and tracking of ships (the Performance standards) adopted by resolution MSC.210(81). Paragraph 14.2 of the Performance standards states that the LRIT Co-ordinator should assist in the establishment of the International LRIT Data Centre and International LRIT Data Exchange by:

- .1 participating in the development of any required technical specifications taking into account the present Performance standards and any relevant decisions of the Committee;

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- .2 issuing requests for the submission of proposals for the establishment and operation of the International LRIT Data Centre and International LRIT Data Exchange;
 - .3 evaluating the management, operational, technical and financial aspects of the proposals received taking into account the present Performance standards and any other related decisions of the Committee and submitting its recommendations in this respect for consideration by the Committee; and
 - .4 participating in the initial developmental testing of the LRIT system and reporting its findings in this respect for consideration by the Committee.
- 3 MSC 82 also agreed that the LRIT Co-ordinator should:
- .1 participate in the development of any required technical specifications and fully participate in the deliberations of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Engineering Aspects of LRIT, COMSAR 11, and any intersessional MSC Working Group meeting; and
 - .2 submit for the consideration of MSC 83, detailed plans and proposed arrangements on how IMSO envisages performing the duties and responsibilities of the LRIT Co-ordinator, including information on the business model that will be utilized.

4 SOLAS regulation V/19-1.14 states that the Committee “shall determine the criteria, procedures and arrangements for the establishment, review and audit of the provision of long-range identification and tracking information to Contracting Governments pursuant to the provisions” of the aforesaid regulation. Thus the authority for designation of IDE and IDC rests with the Committee, while the LRIT Co-ordinator is, under the Performance standards, to assist in the establishment of the IDC and IDE by, *inter alia*, issuing requests for the submission of proposals for the establishment and operation of the International LRIT Data Centre and International LRIT Data Exchange and evaluating the management, operational, technical and financial aspects of the proposals received.

Procedure for submission of proposals, evaluation and designation of IDE and IDC

5 In accordance with provisions of the paragraph 14.2.2 of the Performance standards, IMSO, as the designated LRIT Co-ordinator, has issued the request for the submission of proposals for the establishment, operation and maintenance of the IDE and IDC. A copy of the request has been circulated to all Member Governments and SOLAS Contracting Governments by Circular letter No.2794 dated 23 May 2007.

6 As the Committee has not provided detailed procedure for submission of proposals, their evaluation and the designation of the IDE and IDC, in order to ensure proper consideration of any proposals for the IDE and IDC during MSC 83 and taking into account the Committee's Guidelines, the following procedure is suggested by the Secretariat:

- .1 proposals for the establishment, operation and maintenance of the IDE and IDC should be submitted by SOLAS Contracting Governments to the Secretariat in a form of submissions for consideration by MSC 83 in compliance with the Committee's Guidelines (3 July 2007¹ is, in principle, the deadline for bulky documents);
- .2 the submissions received by the Secretariat should be conveyed, upon receipt in their original language, to the LRIT Co-ordinator for evaluation in accordance with provisions of paragraph 14.2.3 of the Performance standards and will be processed for translation in accordance with the standing practice;
- .3 the LRIT Co-ordinator should submit its reports on the evaluation of proposals conveyed to it by 14 August 2007, at the latest, for processing as documents for consideration by MSC 83 in accordance with the provisions of the Committee's Guidelines;
- .4 all proposals for IDE and IDC submitted for consideration by MSC 83, together with the reports and any recommendations from the LRIT Co-ordinator, will be presented to the Committee for its consideration; and
- .5 it is expected that, pending the decisions of the Committee, the *ad hoc* Working Group on LRIT matters will be instructed to consider all proposals and relevant information and provide its recommendation for the designation of the IDE and IDC to the Committee for taking decision.

7 The procedure set out in paragraph 6 is solely intended: (1) to facilitate the submission and handling of the related documents; and (2) in particular, to make known to all concerned, at this stage, how the Secretariat, in the absence of specific decisions of the Committee, intends to handle relevant submissions before MSC 83. However, nothing in the aforesaid procedure should prejudice decisions of the Committee in this respect.

Action requested of SOLAS Contracting Governments

8 SOLAS Contracting Governments are invited to submit proposals for the establishment and operation of the IDE and IDC in accordance with the procedure set out in paragraph 6 above.

Action requested of the Committee

9 The Committee is invited to note the suggested procedure and take action as appropriate.

¹ In accordance with paragraph 4.10.1 of the Committee's Guidelines, 3 July 2007 is the deadline for submission of documents not exceeding 50 pages. In case a document is exceeding 50 pages the deadline is put back by one week for every 20 pages exceeding 50 pages. In this respect attention is also drawn to paragraph 1.3 of the end notes to document MSC 83/1/Rev.1.