



1st Meeting of the SIOFA VMS Working Group (VMSWG-01)

Online, 15th January 2024

VMSWG-01-02

Proposed Working Arrangements for the SIOFA VMS Working Group (VMSWG)

SIOFA Secretariat

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Abstract	
To facilitate the work of the SIOFA VMS WG, the secretariat is proposing working arrangements for the WG. These arrangements also propose a work plan for the VMSWG, based on the agreed mandate of the WG, by the MoP, and the expected timelines for the setting up and entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS.	

Recommendations (for proposals and working papers only)

- That the SIOFA VMS WG notes and considers these working arrangements
- That the SIOFA VMS WG proposes the adoption of these arrangements by the MoP, through the Compliance Committee.

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² Documents available only to members invited to closed sessions.

Proposed Working Arrangements for the SIOFA VMS Working Group

1. Introduction

At the 10th Meeting of the Parties (MoP10), following the adoption of the CMM 16(2023) on Conservation and Management Measure for the establishment of a SIOFA Vessel Monitoring System (Vessel Monitoring System), (SIOFA VMS), the MoP also *endorsed* a recommendation for the establishment of an intersessional working group to develop detailed Standards, Specifications and Procedures (SSPs) (SIOFA VMSWG) for data formats and transmission, data confidentiality and security requirements, *noting* the agreement of MoP8 to hold an intersessional working process among interested CCPs for further discussions of the technical details of the proposed VMS.

The MoP10 also *agreed* that the SIOFA VMSWG shall further discuss the term 'unique vessel identifier' in paragraph 1 of the CMM.

This document proposes the working modality, which includes the agreed responsibilities, meeting modality, and proposed work plan for the SIOFA VMSWG.

2. Meeting Arrangements

The proposed meeting arrangements are:

1. the SIOFA VMS WG meeting is open to all Delegations to the Meeting of Parties (MoP), including representatives of the Compliance Committee (CC) and SIOFA Observers.
2. That an elected chair or vice chair convenes the working groups. Should no chairs be elected, the meeting shall be convened by the Compliance Committee Chair.
3. That the working group will undertake its work online and via correspondence
4. The SIOFA VMS-WG may also invite experts, including those from other intergovernmental organisations working on VMS matters, to advise the working group.
5. A rapporteur and the conveners will compile a report of the workshop, circulate it, and adopt it via email.

3. Main Tasks of the SIOFA-VMSWG

As mandated by the MoP10, the main responsibilities of the SIOFA VMS WG shall be as follows:

- Definition of the SSPs for the SIOFA VMS.
- Definition of the Data format and standards for transmission of VMS position.
- Definition of the Data confidentiality and security requirements, including any legal, physical and procedural safeguards to be considered, including implications on, and proposed changes to the CMM 02 (2023) on Data Standards and CMM 03 (2016).
- Discussion on the term 'unique vessel identifier' in paragraph 1 of the CMM.

4. Proposed Timetable for the Tasks of the SIOFA VMS WG

SIOFA VMS				
VMSWG Workplan				
Name	Priority	Timeline - Start	Timeline - End	Dependency
SIOFA VMS SSP	High	2023-09-04	2024-06-28	None
Data format and standards	High	2023-11-17	2024-06-28	None
Data confidentiality and security	High	TBD	TBD	SSP, Format and Standards
Vessel UVI	Medium	TBD	TBD	None
SIOFA VMSWG01	High	TBD	TBD	SSP, Format and Standards
		2023-11-17	2024-06-28	