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Saint Germain En Laye, 09 February 202-

Mr. Kaupo Läänerand  
Deputy Minister for Maritime and Water Affairs  
Ministry of Climate of Estonia  
Tallinn, Estonia  
[Annabel.Keerd@kliimaministeerium.ee](mailto:Annabel.Keerd@kliimaministeerium.ee)

**Subject:** Congratulations on Estonia's Accession to the Convention on the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA) and Member State status.

Dear Deputy Minister,

It is with great pleasure that I received on 5 February a note verbale from the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, in their capacity as Depositary, informing me of Estonia's accession to the Convention on the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA) by the deposit of its instrument on 10 December 2025.

On behalf of the Council, I extend my warmest congratulations to you as a Member State of our Organization.

The Convention has entered into force for Estonia on 9 January 2026, making it the 44<sup>th</sup> Member State of our Organization. Thus, Estonia re-joined the decision-making process of IALA to fully exert its influence in the creation and updating of IALA Standards, vote at the General Assembly and also be eligible to be elected for Council.

I am confident that as a Member State, Estonia will continue to enrich our collective work and contribute meaningfully to the advancement of our common goals and IALA's strategic direction and development.

I look forward to working closely with you and your maritime authorities to strengthen collaboration and to promote constructive dialogue and cooperation within our institutional framework. Please be assured of the Secretariat's full support as Estonia assumes its role as a Member State.

I avail myself of this opportunity to convey to you the assurances of my highest consideration

Yours sincerely,

Francis Zachariae  
Secretary-General