Article 3
Aim and Objectives

The aim of the Organization is to bring together governments and organizations concerned with the regulation, provision, maintenance or operation of Marine Aids to Navigation in order to further the objectives of:

(a) Fostering the safe and efficient movement of vessels through the improvement and harmonization of Marine Aids to Navigation worldwide for the benefit of the maritime community and the protection of the marine environment;
(b) Promoting access to technical cooperation and capacity building on all matters related to the development and transfer of expertise, science and technology in relation to Marine Aids to Navigation;
(c) Encouraging and facilitating the general adoption of the highest practicable standards in matters concerning Marine Aids to Navigation; and
(d) Providing for the exchange of information on matters under consideration by the Organization.

Article 4
Functions

In order to achieve the aim and objectives set out in Article 3, the functions of the Organization shall be:

(a) To develop and communicate non-mandatory standards, recommendations, guidelines, manuals and other appropriate documents;
(b) To consider and make recommendations on standards, recommendations, guidelines, manuals and other appropriate documents that may be remitted to it by Member States, Associate Members and Affiliate Members, by any organ or specialized agency of the United Nations or by any other intergovernmental organization;
(c) To provide mechanisms for consultation and the exchange of information covering *inter alia*, recent developments and the activities of Member States, Associate Members and Affiliate Members;
(d) To develop international cooperation by promoting close working relationships and assistance between Member States, Associate Members and Affiliate Members;
(e) To facilitate assistance, whether technical, organizational or training, to governments, services and other organizations requesting help with Marine Aids to Navigation;
(f) To organize conferences, symposia, seminars, workshops and other events; and
(g) To liaise and cooperate with relevant international and other organizations, offering specialized advice, where appropriate.

Article 5
Membership

1. The Organization shall be comprised of Member States, Associate Members and Affiliate Members.
2. Any Member State having responsibility for the international relations of a territory or group of territories may request Associate membership for such territory or group of territories, by notification in writing to the Secretary-General.
3. The Council may require or a Member State may request that aspects of an application for Affiliate membership be reviewed by the Member State or Member States where the applicant carries out its activities or has its principal place of business or registered office. The Council shall take into consideration the views of the requesting and reviewing Member States when deciding on Affiliate membership.

Article 6
Organs

1. The Organization shall have as its organs:
   (a) The General Assembly;
   (b) The Council;
   (c) Committees and subsidiary bodies necessary to support the Organization's activities; and
   (d) The Secretariat.
2. There shall be a President and a Vice President of the Organization. The President, or in case of the President's absence, the Vice President shall chair the General Assembly and the Council.
3. The General Regulations and Financial Regulations shall detail the Rules of Procedure that shall apply for each organ and govern the day-to-day management of the Organization.

Article 7
The General Assembly

1. The General Assembly is the principal decision-making organ of the Organization and shall have all the powers of the Organization, unless otherwise provided by this Convention.
2. The General Assembly shall consist only of Member States. Attendance shall also be open to Associate Members and Affiliate Members.
3. Each Member State shall designate one of its delegates as its principal delegate at the General Assembly.
4. Regular sessions of the General Assembly shall take place once every three years.
5. Extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly shall be convened whenever one-third of Member States give notice to the Secretary-General that they desire a session to be convened, or at any time if deemed necessary by the Council, after a notice of ninety days.
6. A majority of Member States shall constitute a quorum for the sessions of the General Assembly.
7. The General Assembly shall:
   (a) Elect the President and the Vice President from amongst the Member States in accordance with the General Regulations;
   (b) Decide the overall policy and the strategic vision of the Organization;
   (c) Review and approve the General Regulations and the Financial Regulations of the Organization;
   (d) Elect, in accordance with Article 8, the Council from amongst the Member States other than the Member States holding the Presidency or Vice Presidency;
   (e) Elect the Secretary-General from amongst nationals of the Member States in accordance with the General Regulations;
   (f) Establish and terminate Committees and subsidiary bodies and review and approve their Terms of Reference;
   (g) Review and approve the financial arrangements of the Organization, including the outline budget for the following three years and the rate of contributions for Member States and fees for Associate Members and Affiliate Members;
   (h) Consider the reports and proposals put to it by any Member State, the Council or the Secretary-General;
   (i) Approve standards;
   (j) Decide on Associate membership;
   (k) Rule on Affiliate membership upon the request of one or more Member States;
   (l) Make recommendations to Member States, Associate Members and Affiliate Members on matters within the aim and objectives of the Organization;
   (m) Approve agreements with States and international organizations; and