

Baroness Hayter of Kentish Town  
Chair, House of Lords International Agreements  
Committee

20 May 2022

Dear Lady Hayter

**International agreement: Convention on the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation**

Further to our letter of 23 March 2022, in which we shared a copy of our seventh report on international agreements considered by the Committee, you may wish to be aware we have received a response from the Welsh Government to our letter seeking further information regarding the consultation process for the Convention on the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IOMAN).

The explanatory memorandum for this agreement stated that the UK Government 'consulted the Devolved Administrations on the drafting of the Convention and they are also content with the position.' However, in its response to our letter, the Welsh Government stated it 'was not consulted by the UK Government in the drafting of the convention' and it is 'disappointed that a UK-wide decision such as the establishment of this new intergovernmental organisation has been made without engagement with the Welsh Government.' While the response welcomes the strengthening of international cooperation in enhancing the safety of global marine navigation, it makes clear that the convention 'affects all parts of the UK and Welsh interests need to be part of the decision-making process'.

We are aware that the scrutiny deadline for this agreement has passed. However we wanted to bring this disparity regarding the consultation process to your attention.

We would also like to use this opportunity to highlight that our scrutiny of international agreements may involve exchanging correspondence with the Welsh Government to seek further information. As such, we may not always be able to complete scrutiny within the initial 21-day period provided by the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010, and to therefore share relevant information to inform your conclusions. However, we will continue to share information which might be relevant to your general consideration of international agreements.

Yours sincerely,



Huw Irranca-Davies  
Chair