



19<sup>th</sup> Session of APHoMSA

Distributed: 3 May 2018

## Outcome Statement

1. The 19<sup>th</sup> session of the Asia-Pacific Heads of Maritime Safety Agencies (APHoMSA) forum was convened from 10-12 April 2018 in Vina del Mar, Chile. The meeting was opened by the Director-General of Directemar, Admiral Guillermo Lüttges, and was chaired by Admiral Otto Mrugalski. The meeting was closed by Admiral Mrugalski.
2. Eighteen Member States were represented: Australia; Canada; Chile; China; Cook Islands; Fiji; Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Malaysia; New Zealand; Philippines; Singapore; Solomon Islands; Timor-Leste; United States; Vanuatu; and Vietnam.
3. Five standing Observers were represented: the International Maritime Organization (IMO); the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA); the Tokyo Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (Tokyo MOU); the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO); and the Pacific Community (SPC).
4. Four Observer states were represented: Marshall Islands; Mexico; Mongolia; and the Russian Federation.

## Protecting the Marine Environment

5. Acknowledging that this session of APHoMSA met in the same week as the 72<sup>nd</sup> session of the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 72), the first item considered on the agenda was Pillar 2: Protecting the Marine Environment. This was to allow members to communicate any information or decisions of APHoMSA to their delegations in London should they wish to do so.
6. Members noted the steps Australia is taking to contribute to understanding and managing ship sourced marine debris. Members also noted the proposal for a new IMO work output to address ship sourced marine debris submitted to MEPC 72 by Iceland, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Norway, Palau and Vanuatu. Members agreed to investigate the effectiveness of MARPOL Annex V implementation in their own waters and ports to inform the international debate within the IMO and consider acceding to MARPOL Annex V.
7. Members noted the IMO's update on preparations for the introduction of the 0.50% fuel oil sulphur limit by 2020 and the decision to develop a single set of guidelines on 'Consistent implementation of regulations 14.1.3 of MARPOL Annex VI,' taking into account all proposals made at the 5<sup>th</sup> session of the IMO's Pollution Prevention and Response Sub-Committee (PPR), held at IMO headquarters in London in February 2018.

8. The IMO updated Members on the implementation of the strategy on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from ships. Members noted the work of the Intersessional Working Group on Greenhouse Gas Emissions which was held at IMO headquarters from 3-6 April 2018. copy of the report of the Intersessional Working Group was made available to Members.
9. Members noted Canada's update on implementation of the requirements of the *International Code for Ships Operating in Polar Waters* (Polar Code). New Zealand provided Members with copy of a submission to the 99<sup>th</sup> session of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 99) on safety measures for non-SOLAS ships operating in polar waters, which has been cosponsored with Chile. Members broadly supported the ongoing implementation of safety measures for non-SOLAS vessels operating in polar waters and agreed to invite their IMO delegations to support the proposals of New Zealand and Chile during MSC 99.
10. Member's noted Chile's update on measures to reduce Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing and the role of international agreements, including the work of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO). Members agreed to consider methods for further cooperation and exchange of information.
11. SPC provided an update on the establishment of the Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre in the Pacific (MTCC-Pacific). Vanuatu provided an update on the first national workshop on energy efficient operation of ships, which was followed by a visit by MTCC-Pacific/SPC expert on board domestic vessels in Port Vila to introduce the Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan. Vanuatu noted the importance of taking measures to ensure that all sectors contribute to reducing energy consumption and GHG emissions. Fiji noted the challenge of reducing emissions with an ageing fleet. SPC informed Members that the ageing fleet is an issue worldwide and agreed that in the long term, a replacement program to address ageing ships in the Pacific region would need to be considered.
12. Members noted Canada's update on recent actions to protect whales in Canadian waters. Members recognised the importance of whales to marine ecosystems and shared their efforts to protect whales from the effects of shipping. Members agreed, where required, to communicate to their fleets the importance of respecting the area to be avoided in Roseway Basin, south of Nova Scotia, as well as any speed limits that may be imposed in the Gulf of St. Lawrence to protect whale populations. Members also agreed to support Canada's initiatives and share information about measures to protect whales.
13. Members noted a report by Chile on the establishment of Large Marine Protected Areas (LMPA) in the Pacific Ocean basin. Chile proposed a Correspondence Group to exchange information and experiences related to monitoring LMPAs and share experiences and best practices for within APHoMSA countries. Members agreed to contact Commander Enrique Vargas ([evargasg@directemar.cl](mailto:evargasg@directemar.cl)) if they wish to participate.



14. Members noted Chile's experiences in implementing Article 8.2 of the London Protocol in respect of emergency cases, drawing particular attention to a salmon mortality event caused by a harmful algal bloom that affected the Los Lagos region in 2016. Members agreed to consider further cooperation and exchange of information on implementation of the London Protocol.

## Safety at Sea, Including Seafarer Welfare

15. The United States provided an update on the Correspondence Group for Domestic Shipping Safety and the use of the Domestic Shipping Safety Self-Assessment Tool. Members welcomed the development by the Correspondence Group of a facilitation tool for conducting self- or third party assessments of domestic shipping safety programs, and thanked the United States and Singapore for sharing this tool during Singapore's International Safety@Sea Week in 2017.
16. Several countries completed the self-assessment, with most indicating that they had an adequate program in place to prevent vessel casualties. Members emphasised the importance of domestic shipping and the usefulness of the assessment tool. SPC offered assistance to Pacific Island Members who wish to complete a Domestic Shipping Safety Program assessment.
17. Members noted complementary efforts from New Zealand, who reported using the tool in their Pacific Maritime Safety Program (PMSP) and SPC, which has with partners Australia, New Zealand and the IMO, worked to improve domestic shipping safety through capacity building in the Pacific Islands Domestic Ship Safety (PIDSS) Program.
18. Members noted the report by the Republic of Korea on a comprehensive plan to enhance domestic shipping safety in Korean waters. Members commended the Republic of Korea for its efforts, shared information about new safety standards for domestic commercial vessels within their own jurisdictions and acknowledged the importance of continuing to share information and best practises between Members.
19. Members noted SPC's update on support provided to Pacific Islands Countries to develop safe and efficient domestic shipping. Members acknowledged the outcomes of the PIDSS Programme; the Pacific MOU on Flag State Implementation and promotion of opportunities for women in the maritime industry. The United States noted that results from the domestic shipping self-assessment tool could be forwarded to SPC to identify regional gaps and allow better targeting of capacity building efforts in the region.
20. Vanuatu provided a verbal update on the recent establishment of the Office of Maritime Regulator, an independent government owned entity formed to regulate the maritime sector of Vanuatu, and thanked SPC for their assistance training staff of the new regulator. Members noted that Vanuatu and SPC conducted a workshop on Maritime Safety and Governance and have developed an open consultative process to ensure progress towards safer shipping in Vanuatu. Members congratulated Vanuatu on the establishment of the Vanuatu Women in



Maritime at the end of March 2018, with assistance from IMO and SPC. The Chair noted that Chile has a similar and long-standing initiative and offered to share experiences with Vanuatu.

21. Members discussed cooperation on domestic ferry safety management in the Asia-Pacific region. Members agreed to share best practices and experiences on domestic ferry safety management with the Correspondence Group on Domestic Shipping Safety. Members were also invited to join the next workshop on ferry safety in Guangdong, China in 2018/2019 and noted the value of wide participation in this meeting. Members discussed the importance of bridge and crew education, building a safety culture and capacity building initiatives.
22. Members thanked China for the report of the Correspondence Group on Safe Carriage of Cargo and agreed to continue to participate. Members also noted the value APHoMSA Members can bring to discussions at the IMO through the work of the Correspondence Group.
23. Members thanked China for the report of the Correspondence Group on Implementation of IMO Convention and IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) and agreed to continue to participate. Members acknowledged the value of sharing the results of IMSAS with IHO and IALA to determine future capacity building needs.
24. Members were updated on Singapore's plan to develop the Next Generation Vessel Traffic Management System (NGVTMS) to further enhance navigational safety of vessels and protect the marine environment. Members applauded Singapore for the critical and innovative approach to the development of new VTMS technology.
25. Members discussed the challenges associated with fraudulent seafarer certification and noted New Zealand's case study of the Navmar Training Institute. Members agreed to share information regarding fraudulent activities to ensure appropriate action can be undertaken within relevant jurisdictions. The APHoMSA Secretariat will circulate this information to members if requested.
26. Members discussed the value of electronic certification and thanked China for their offer of cooperation to assist members to accept electronic certificates consistent with the *Guidelines for use of electronic certificates* (FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2).
27. Members noted Chile's use of Automatic Positioning Systems to monitor commercial fishing and aquaculture support vessels. China informed Members of their intention to develop a submission to the MSC. China agreed to provide a copy of the submission to Members at the next session of APHoMSA.
28. Members discussed Chile's report on maritime domain awareness capability in the Antarctic region (GRAFIMAR WEB). Members agreed to consider further cooperation and exchange of information on maritime domain awareness in the Antarctic.

29. The Republic of Korea reported on the outcomes of the inaugural e-Navigation Underway Asia-Pacific Conference, held from 18-20 June 2017. The Republic of Korea introduced the 2<sup>nd</sup> e-Navigation Underway Asia-Pacific Conference to be held in Seoul from 3-5 June 2018. Members noted that a capacity building program will be held in advance of the meeting, jointly hosted by the IALA World Wide Academy from 6-8 June 2018. Members were encouraged to participate in both events.
30. IHO updated Members on maritime administrations and the status of hydrography in the Asia-Pacific region. IHO stressed the importance of the region and its commitment to providing hydrographic services and assistance to States. Members were encouraged to ensure a national Maritime Safety Information (MSI) coordinator is appointed, trained and supported to fulfil the requirements of SOLAS V/4 and V/9. The IHO Representative agreed to communicate Fiji's comments and the request for IHO to consider a conducting risk assessment for Pacific Island countries.
31. Members noted an update from Malaysia on the joint hydrographic survey of the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS). The SOMS, which connect the Pacific and Indian Oceans, is one of the busiest and most important straits used for international navigation. Members acknowledged the work of Malaysia and other littoral States and requested further updates on the joint hydrographic survey.
32. Members noted an update on maritime safety in Vietnam, with a case study presented on Vietnam's efforts to deal with the effects of Typhoon Damrey in November 2017. China and Chile noted their own arrangements to deal with the effects of natural disasters and agreed to share with Vietnam their own experiences of responding to maritime incidents relating to natural disasters.
33. Members noted Chile's update on the value of a system of information exchange for merchant or vessels of interest.
34. The United States updated Members on international cooperation for two marine safety investigations involving three other APHoMSA Member States. The United States commended the efforts of Japan, Singapore and Philippines in conducting parallel investigations consistent with generally recognised practices of international law and the IMO Casualty Investigation Code. Members also noted the importance of early coordination and communications immediately following a marine causality incident.

## Maritime Incident Response

35. Malaysia updated Members on the development of guidelines on places of refuge for ships in need of assistance in the SOMS. Members noted the outcomes of the first workshop held in Johor Bahru, Malaysia in February 2017 and Malaysia advised that a technical visit by the IMO is planned for 2018 followed by a second workshop to conclude the project.

36. Members noted the update by Chile on marine environment protection actions undertaken in response to the sinking of the Chilean well boat *SEIKONGEN*. Vanuatu noted the difficulties for Pacific Islands with regards to wreck removal and pollution response. Members shared their own experiences of response and wreck removal.
37. The United States highlighted the possible value of APHoMSA Member engagement with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the IMO Joint Working Group on Search and Rescue (ICAO/IMO JWG). Members are encouraged to consider how they can prepare for the introduction of the Global Aeronautical Distress and Safety System (GADSS) tracking capability applicable from 1 January 2021. Members were also encouraged to consider participating in the ICAO/IMO JWG as observers. Members agreed that Outcome Statements and invitations of the Joint Working Group will be distributed by the APHoMSA Secretariat.
38. Members noted Indonesia's report on marine disaster response. Members encouraged bilateral and regional coordination on this issue.

## Regional Cooperation

39. Members noted the Secretariat's annual update of technical cooperation activities planned for the Asia-Pacific region in 2018. Members agreed to notify the Secretariat of any further activities they would like included.
40. Members noted relevant outcomes from key meetings of international and regional organisations relating to the APHoMSA pillars. Members agreed to notify the Secretariat of any further meetings or outcomes that they would like included in this resource.
41. Members noted the recent developments and activities of the Tokyo MOU in 2017, including results of Port State Control inspections in the region. Members also noted the planned Tokyo MOU Technical Cooperation Programmes for 2018, and thanked the Tokyo MOU for their good work in promoting effective Port State Control in the Asia-Pacific region. Members were encouraged to join the Tokyo MOU if they have not already done so.
42. Members thanked IALA for their update on recent activity in the Asia-Pacific region. IALA thanked Malaysia for its contribution as a sponsor to the capacity building work of IALA and encouraged Members to contact the IALA World Wide Academy for assistance if required.
43. Members noted Chile's update on the regional cooperation work of the Maritime Search and Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC Chile). Members commended Chile's efforts to build regional search and rescue capability.
44. Members noted the information presented by SPC on the IMO regional presence in the Pacific. Members appreciate the efforts of the IMO and SPC to deliver a two year pilot programme with a dedicated officer appointed to deliver activities of the IMO Integrated Technical Cooperation Program (ITCP). Members agreed that the IMO's approach to technical cooperation and IMO



presence in the South Pacific needs to be a long-term sustainable effort to meet the needs of Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries in the region.

45. Members noted New Zealand's initiatives to support improvements in maritime safety in seven Pacific Island nations – Niue, Tokelau, Kiribati, Cook Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Samoa. New Zealand acknowledged the contributions of the IMO, SPC and SPREP. Members thanked New Zealand for their continued support.
46. New Zealand updated Members on how Maritime New Zealand manages media during incident responses. Members discussed approaches to managing media.
47. The Republic of Korea introduced Korea Maritime Week 2018, which will be held in Busan, Korea from 27-30 June 2018.
48. Members noted Chile's update on the development of IMO Model Courses as the basis for training and capacity building activities in the region. Members thanked Chile for their offer to participate in future training programs.
49. Singapore provided Members with an update of recent developments from the Cooperative Mechanism on Safety of Navigation and Environmental Protection in the SOMS. Members noted cooperation between the littoral States and other stakeholders of the SOMS and the value of participating in the forum.
50. Members noted the Republic of Korea's report on the development of the Asia-Pan-Pacific Web (APPWeb). Members agreed to consider participating in APPWeb.
51. The Republic of Korea updated Members on the IMO technical cooperation activities financed by the Republic of Korea in 2018. Members thanked the Republic of Korea for its commitment to capacity building efforts in the Asia-Pacific region. APHoMSA Members are encouraged to contact the IMO Secretariat should they wish to nominate participants for relevant activities.

## Other Business

52. Members approved Mongolia's application for membership of APHoMSA.
53. Members noted the Republic of Korea's update on preparations for hosting APHoMSA in 2019.
54. Members agreed to the 2018 Work Plan which was tabled in support of the APHoMSA Strategy 2014-2020.