

THE 27th ASSEMBLY OF INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION (IMO)

The 27th Regular session of the Assembly of International Maritime Organization (IMO) was held in London from 21 to 30 November 2011, attended by more than 1000 delegates representing 160 member states. The Assembly was also attended by three associate IMO members, the representatives of UN, nine international organizations and 32 non-governmental organizations with consultative status.

The Assembly discussed the following topics:

- 1 Adoption of the agenda
- 2 Election of the President and the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly
- 3 Application of Article 61 of the IMO Convention – Report of the Council to the Assembly on any requests by Members for waiver
- 4 Establishment of committees of the Assembly:
 - (a) Establishment of the Credentials Committee
 - (b) Establishment of other committees, as necessary
- 5 Consideration of the reports of the committees of the Assembly:
 - (a) Report of the Credentials Committee
 - (b) Reports of other committees
- 6 Report of the Council to the Assembly on the work of the Organization since the twenty-sixth regular session of the Assembly
- 7 Strategy and planning
- 8 Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme
- 9 Consideration of the reports and recommendations of the Maritime Safety Committee
- 10 Consideration of the reports and recommendations of the Legal Committee
- 11 Consideration of the reports and recommendations of the Marine Environment Protection Committee
- 12 Consideration of the reports and recommendations of the Technical Co-operation Committee
- 13 Consideration of the reports and recommendations of the Facilitation Committee
- 14 Report on diplomatic conferences:
 - (a) 2010 International Conference on the revision of the HNS Convention
 - (b) 2010 Conference of Parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978
- 15 Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 and the 1996 Protocol thereto: report on the performance of Secretariat functions and other duties
- 16 Resource management:
 - (a) Report on arrears of contributions and advances to the Working Capital Fund
 - (b) Presentation of accounts and audit reports
 - (c) Results-based budget for 2012-2013
- 17 Financial sustainability of the World Maritime University
- 18 Global maritime training institutions:
 - (a) Report on the World Maritime University
 - (b) Report on the IMO International Maritime Law Institute
- 19 External relations:
 - (a) Relations with the United Nations and the specialized agencies
 - (b) Joint Inspection Unit
 - (c) Relations with intergovernmental organizations
 - (d) Relations with non-governmental organizations
 - (e) Report on World Maritime Days, 2010 and 2011
 - (f) International Maritime Prize
 - (g) IMO Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea
 - (h) Day of the Seafarer
- 20 Report on the status of the Convention and membership of the Organization
- 21 Report on the status of conventions and other multilateral instruments in respect of which the Organization performs functions
- 22 Election of Members of the Council, as provided for in Articles 16 and 17 of the IMO Convention
- 23 Election of Members of the IMO Staff Pension Committee

- 24 Appointment of the External Auditor
- 25 Approval of the appointment of the Secretary-General
- 26 Date and place of the twenty-eighth regular session of the Assembly
- 27 Farewell to Mr. E.E. Mitropoulos (Secretary-General who will be retiring on 1st January 2012)
- 28 Supplementary agenda items

The 27th Assembly adopted the following resolutions:

Resolution number	Resolution title
A.1033(27)	Day of the seafarer
A.1034(27)	Appreciation of the services to the organization of Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos
A.1035(27)	Approval of the appointment of the Secretary-general
A.1036(27)	Appointment of the external auditor
A.1037(27)	Strategic plan for the organization (for the six-year period 2012 to 2017)
A.1038(27)	High-level action plan of the organization and Priorities for the 2012-2013 biennium
A.1039(27)	Results-based budget for the 2012-2013 biennium
A.1040(27)	Presentation of accounts and audit reports
A.1041(27)	Arrears of contributions
A.1042(27)	Revision of the organization's financial regulations (effective 1 January 2012)
A.1043(27)	Periodic review of administrative requirements in mandatory IMO instruments
A.1044(27)	Piracy and armed robbery against ships in waters off the coast of Somalia
A.1045(27)	Pilot transfer arrangements
A.1046(27)	Worldwide radio navigation system
A.1047(27)	Principles of minimum safe manning
A.1048(27)	Code of safe practice for ships carrying timber deck cargoes, 2011 (2011 TDC Code)
A.1049(27)	International Code on the enhanced programme of inspections during surveys of bulk carriers and oil tankers, 2011 (2011 ESP Code)
A.1050(27)	Revised recommendations for entering enclosed spaces aboard ships
A.1051(27)	IMO/WMO worldwide met-ocean information and warning service guidance document
A.1052(27)	Procedures for port state control, 2011
A.1053(27)	Survey guidelines under the harmonized system of survey and certification (HSSC), 2011
A.1054(27)	Code for the implementation of mandatory IMO instruments, 2011
A.1055(27)	Issue of bunkers certificates to ships that are also required to hold a CLC certificate
A.1056(27)	Promotion as widely as possible of the application of the 2006 Guidelines on fair treatment of seafarers in the event of a maritime accident
A.1057(27)	Issue of wreck removal certificates to bareboat-registered vessels
A.1058(27)	Collation and preservation of evidence following an allegation of a serious crime having taken place on board a ship or following a report of a missing person from a ship, and pastoral and medical care of victims
A.1059(27)	Relations with non-governmental organizations

The Assembly elected the new IMO Council with two-years mandate. The actual Secretary-General, Efthimios Mitropoulos will be retiring on 1st January 2012 and his successor for the next four years will be Koji Sikimizu.

On 23rd November the Royal Institution of Naval Architects of which the Authority for determination of seaworthiness is a corporate member, organized a lecture with a topic "Unlocking the Arctic and its energy potentials" delivered by Sergey Frank, president of Sovcomflot, the largest Russian shipping company.