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## EXTERNAL RELATIONS

### (f) Report on World Maritime Day 2014

Submitted by Morocco

#### SUMMARY

*Executive summary:* This document reports on the parallel event held in Tangier by the Kingdom of Morocco on the occasion of IMO World Maritime Day

*Strategic direction:* 11.1

*High-level action:* 11.1.1

*Planned output:* No related provisions

*Action to be taken:* Paragraph 39

*Related document:* C 113/12(f)

#### Parallel event held in Tangier, Morocco, on the occasion of IMO World Maritime Day

1 The Kingdom of Morocco had the honour and privilege to host, from 27 to 29 October 2014 in Tangier, the World Maritime Day 2014 parallel event.

2 The theme for this event followed that of World Maritime Day 2014, namely "IMO Conventions: effective implementation". It was held jointly by IMO and the Government of Morocco through the Ministry for Infrastructure, Transport and Logistics (Merchant Marine Directorate).

3 It should be mentioned that this parallel event was held under the patronage of His Majesty, King Mohammed VI.

#### Conference

4 On the first day Mr Aziz Rebbah, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Logistics, welcomed the representatives and officially opened the event, after which Mr. Koji Sekimizu, Secretary-General of IMO, gave an opening speech on IMO's role in effectively implementing its conventions and on the vital importance of the global maritime heritage. Next, Mr. Driss Dahak, Minister and General Secretary of the Government, recalled the role and contribution

of Morocco in the advances made by maritime transport over the years and also Morocco's maritime achievements in terms of its maritime and port facilities intended to promote the safety of navigation and ensure the smooth flow and efficiency of international shipping.

5 After this introduction, and for the first time in the history of these parallel events, Mr. Sekimizu handed over to Morocco the official flag of the IMO World Maritime Day parallel events. Every year the flag will be passed on by the organizing State to the State organizing the following year's event. This new tradition will be maintained for the events to come.

6 The opening ceremony, attended by over 400 participants from 30 countries, was followed by the opening of an exhibition on the theme "Elements of Morocco's maritime heritage", with 13 exhibitors.

7 The parallel event was attended by African transport ministers, many delegations and permanent representatives of IMO Member States, maritime authorities from the African region, interested parties from the local maritime industry, classification societies, governmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, the media and maritime academies.

8 Over the first and second days a seminar involving six panels was held, each headed by a chairman and featuring speakers of international quality and renown.

9 During the first session on day one, Prof. Alain Piquemal, Dean of the Faculty of International Law in the Institute of Law, Peace and Development (IDPD) at the University of Nice, Sophia Antipolis (France), and member of the Maritime Council of the Principality of Monaco, chaired the first panel on the topic of "IMO's role in developing international maritime conventions and regulations".

10 This panel featured the following speakers:

- .1 Mr. Jeffrey Lantz, Chairman of the IMO Council, whose presentation focused on "Realizing IMO objectives through the adoption of international maritime conventions and regulations";
- .2 Mr. Frederick Kenney, Director, Legal and External Relations Division, IMO, on "IMO's mandate in the process of developing maritime conventions";
- .3 Mr. Jose Maura, Director of IOPC Funds, on "Effective implementation of IMO conventions: Conventions relating to compensation and liability regimes with reference to the Civil Liability Convention and the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage"; and
- .4 Mr. Hilal Housseini, former deputy Director, Technical Cooperation Division, IMO, on "Promoting ratification and effective application of the IMO conventions through the IMO Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) supported by the Country Maritime Profile module: the African experience".

11 The second panel on the first day, chaired by Mr. Esteban Pacha, Director-General of IMSO (International Maritime Satellite Organization), addressed the topic of "The three groups of IMO conventions: safety, environment, and liability and compensation".

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12 This panel featured the following speakers:

- .1 Mr. Andrew Winbow, Director, Maritime Safety Division, IMO, on "Safety of passenger transport vessels";
- .2 Mr. Miguel Palomares, former Director, IMO Marine Environment Division, on "The Cape Town Agreement on the Safety of Fishing Vessels";
- .3 Mr. Chris Wiley, Technical Services Manager, Transport Canada, and Chairman of the IMO Ballast Water Review Group, on "The Ballast Water Management Convention and the Ship Recycling Convention";
- .4 Mr. Giorgio Berlingieri, Vice-President, Comité Maritime International, on "Liability and compensation, the HNS Protocol and the Wreck Removal Convention".

13 The first day concluded with a third panel chaired by Mr. Rafael Rodriguez Valero, Director-General of the Merchant Marine of Spain, which considered "The effective implementation of IMO conventions: national experiences".

14 The following speakers featured in the third panel:

- .1 Mr. D. Julio Berzosa Navarro, Commandant of the port of Algeciras, who recalled the Spanish experience;
- .2 Mrs. Meriem Hrouch, legal adviser to the Secretariat-General of the Government of Morocco, whose presentation focused on "Integration of the provisions and standards in the IMO conventions into the maritime legislation and regulations of the Kingdom of Morocco";
- .3 Mr. Mourad El Fadil, Director of Legal Research and Studies at the Secretariat-General of the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, on the topic of "The role of jurisprudence in the effective implementation of the IMO private maritime law conventions".

15 The second day was concerned with presenting maritime Morocco, its heritage, its achievements and especially its new strategies and objectives for an accelerated relaunch of integrated and sustainable development of the Kingdom's maritime sector, thanks in particular to mutually beneficial international partnerships and investments. In addition to national public and private speakers, foreign speakers presented national and international best practices and success stories.

16 The first panel on this day was led by Prof. Said Ihrai, Rector of Universities and Chairman of the National Committee for Monitoring the Protection of Personal Data (CNDP) of the Kingdom of Morocco. The panel considered the topic of "The maritime heritage of Morocco and new strategies for its development".

17 The following speakers featured in this panel:

- .1 Prof. Bahija Simou, Director of the Royal Archives, on "Morocco and the sea through the royal archives";
- .2 Mr. Younes Tazi, Director General of the Moroccan Agency for Logistical Development (AMDL), on "Morocco's logistical strategy";

- .3 Mr. Moha Hamaoui, Director of Ports and the Maritime Public Domain (DPDPM), on "Port strategy to 2030 and the organization of the maritime public domain";
- .4 Mr. Mohamed Marzagui, interim Director, Merchant Marine Directorate, on "Strategic study of the maritime transport industry in Morocco and development of the national flag: major strategic options";
- .5 Mr. Taoufik Elktiri, Director of Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture, on "The Halieutis Strategy: a strategic framework for development of the maritime fishing industry until 2020".

18 The second panel on day two, on "Opportunities for investment and partnerships", saw interventions by representatives of the National Ports Agency (ANP), the Tangier Med Port Authority (TMPA) and the new Port Nador West Med.

19 The last panel at the event was chaired by Mr. Mohammed Margaoui, former Secretary-General at the Ministry of transport and Chairman of DEFMAR. The subject was "Development of maritime transport and services at national and international level".

20 The following speakers featured in this panel:

- .1 Mr. Lino Vassallo, Permanent Representative of Malta to IMO, on "Malta's experience in developing the national flag";
- .2 Mr. Guido Grimaldi, Italian Shipowners' Confederation (CONFITARMA), on "Promoting marine highways in the Mediterranean";
- .3 Mr. Maely Daoud, Director, Filhet-Allard Maritime, on "The need to develop maritime insurance in Africa".

21 At the conclusion of each panel a question and answer session open to participants was held.

22 This high-level international celebration in Tangier offered the assembled participants the opportunity to convey messages of peace and heightened cooperation to the international maritime community, and thus to strengthen the determination to ensure effective implementation of the IMO conventions in the cause of safer navigation and cleaner oceans as the basis for sustainable development in the maritime industry. This is the objective of the Tangier Declaration adopted by acclamation (see annex).

23 The Declaration emphasizes in particular the need to respect the basic tenets of international maritime treaty law. It also sets out the principles of international cooperation in their widest sense (multilateral, regional and subregional), with the aim of assisting the least developed States to contribute effectively to the implementation of the relevant maritime conventions. Protection of the oceans knows no limits, and preservation of the marine environment involves differentiated cooperation allowing all States, whatever their level of development, to take part in the spirit of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

24 The Declaration calls for the establishment of new forms of cooperation among countries in the framework of IMO as a supranational body. The aim is to enable the least developed States to take an active role in implementing the relevant maritime conventions.

25 In a wider sense, the Tangier Declaration aims to make maritime areas into places of mutual cooperation and areas of equitable prosperity, rather than areas of confrontation.

26 The second day saw the flag of the World Maritime Day parallel event handed over by Mr. Mohamed Najib Boulif, Assistant Minister at the Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Logistics of the Kingdom of Morocco, to Mr. Toshiki Sakurai, Senior Deputy Director-General of the Japan Maritime Bureau who, in his speech, thanked Morocco for organizing the 2014 session and invited everyone present to attend in 2015.

27 A commemorative plaque for the WMD parallel event was presented by Mr. Koji Sekimizu to Mr. Mohamed Najib Boulif. The latter presented the IMO Secretary-General with a memento of the Tangier parallel event.

28 During the closing session, Mr. Mohamed Najib Boulif reaffirmed his country's commitment to giving full effect to the IMO conventions. He then announced Morocco's intention to set up a centre dedicated to the maritime culture of Morocco.

29 The proceedings of the World Maritime Day 2014 parallel event were then officially declared closed after the reading, by the Director of the Merchant Marine, of a letter of allegiance and devotion towards His Majesty King Mohammed VI.

### **Visits and events**

30 On his arrival in Morocco on 26 October the IMO Secretary-General, accompanied by his host Mr. Mohamed Najib Boulif, visited the Tangier maritime traffic control centre (Tangier Traffic) and the Tangier-Med port complex, where presentations were made and information provided.

31 On Wednesday, 29 October, the third day of the parallel event, the participants visited the port of Tangier Ville where they learned about the conversion of the port area before taking the ro-ro ferry *Tanger Express* to the Tangier-Med port complex.

32 While passing through the Strait of Gibraltar the participants were able to view the Tangier Traffic centre from the sea and to learn more about the Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) established by IMO in this area of dense traffic.

33 On arrival at the Tanger-Med complex the participants visited the port terminal facilities and watched a presentation on a project to extend those facilities and construct Tangier Med Port II.

34 The day ended with a visit to the legendary Cape Spartel lighthouse, which this year celebrates its 150th anniversary.

### **Meetings held with the Secretary-General**

35 During his visit the Secretary-General was received by Mr. Aziz Rebbah, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Logistics, Mr. Mohamed Najib Boulif, Assistant Minister at the Ministry for Infrastructure, Transport and Logistics, and Mr. Isselkou Ould Ahmed Izid Bih, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport of Mauritania.

### **Conclusions**

36 Morocco has enjoyed the honour and privilege of holding the World Maritime Day 2014 parallel event. The sizeable participation by delegations and speakers enriched the event and helped to ensure its success.

37 Morocco is grateful to the Secretary-General of IMO and all the participants and delegations that honoured this event with their presence and their contribution towards its smooth organization and management.

38 Further information on the parallel event may be found, with photos and reports, on the following site: <http://www.worldmaritimedaymorocco.com> .

**Action to be taken by the Council**

39 The Council is invited to note the information provided in this document.

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## ANNEX

### THE TANGIER DECLARATION

#### **EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION (IMO): FOUNDATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE MARITIME SECTOR**

The participants in the World Maritime Day parallel event which took place in Tangier from 27 to 28 October 2014, at the kind invitation of the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, to celebrate this event which was decided in 2005 by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and whose theme this year is "IMO Conventions: Effective Implementation":

- Taking account of the solemn call to all States of the international community by the IMO Secretary-General on the occasion of World Maritime Day 2014 to ratify, accede to and effectively implement the IMO conventions, some of which have already entered into force and others that require further ratifications and accessions to enter into force;
- Referring in particular to the need to accelerate the entry into force and effective implementation of certain key IMO conventions, including:
  - the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004, known as the "BWM Convention";
  - the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009;
  - the Protocol of 2010 to the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea, 1996, known as the "HNS Convention";
  - the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977;
- Conscious of the fundamental role in terms of sustainable and equitable development in the maritime sector that can be played by effective implementation of IMO conventions and other relevant international conventions in guaranteeing the safety and security of navigation and protection of the marine environment and its resources against the risks of pollution, and in determining, where necessary, liabilities and compensation for damage caused to the marine and coastal environment and its resources;
- Noting the fact that the standards decreed by the international maritime conventions apply uniformly to States of varying stages of economic and technological development, and, therefore, some developing countries may encounter difficulties in effectively implementing those standards and fulfilling the obligations assumed under those conventions;

- Appreciating the efforts of IMO and other international institutions, as part of their technical cooperation programmes, to assist developing countries to strengthen their capacities in order to fulfil their obligations under international maritime conventions;
- Taking the view that the obligations to guarantee the safety and security of maritime navigation at the worldwide level and protection of the marine environment and its resources must be fulfilled by all States in a spirit of equitable partnership and effective solidarity between countries of varying economic and technological levels;

Declare that, in order to ensure effective implementation of the IMO conventions and other international instruments aimed at the sustainable development of the maritime sector and its contribution to the wellbeing and prosperity of all countries in an equitable manner, the following actions, among others, should be promoted and developed:

1. Intensify IMO technical and legislative cooperation for developing countries with a view to strengthening their capacities to effectively and efficiently implement the IMO conventions;
2. Promote and strengthen the necessary cooperation for solidarity between developed and developing Member States to contribute to better implementation of the IMO conventions;
3. Assist developing countries in strengthening their port services that contribute to the effective implementation of the provisions and standards of the IMO conventions to which they are party;
4. Encourage the development of maritime transport fleets flying the national flags of developing countries, while ensuring that the vessels in those fleets meet the standards for safety, crew training and marine environment protection established by the IMO conventions;
5. Organize regional seminars to raise awareness about ratification and effective implementation of the IMO conventions, particularly in developing or emerging geographical regions;
6. Further develop cooperation mechanisms between IMO and the various regional programmes for marine environment protection that impact on maritime transport;
7. Support the adoption of appropriate measures within the "Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas" (PSSAs), such as those established by IMO, by providing technical assistance to coastal developing countries for the establishment and preservation of such areas;
8. Support bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation, including IMO recommendations, with a view to making navigation safer in the face of the increase in maritime piracy in several regions of the world;
9. Facilitate cooperation between flag State and port State with a view to making navigation safer and strengthening marine environment protection;
10. Support the development of "Clean port" and "Safe and healthy port" certifications, continuing initiatives that have already been launched, and providing technical assistance for ports in developing countries that aspire to achieve them, particularly with regard to the design, construction and management of their port complexes, commercial ports, fishing ports and marinas;



11. Establish greater cooperation between IMO and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) towards modernization of fishing vessels in developing countries, particularly with regard to their safety in accordance with IMO Conventions standards;
12. Assist developing countries to make their maritime sectors a real lever for economic and social development, in particular by increasing employment;
13. Promote interregional maritime cooperation, particularly in Africa, facilitating sustainable development of the maritime sector of the African continent;
14. Strengthen North-South and South-South cooperation, in relation to maritime search and rescue and prevention and control of pollution of the marine environment and its resources;
15. Establish the necessary mechanisms and procedures to make maritime areas beyond national jurisdiction, areas of mutually beneficial cooperation and solidarity;

The participants in the meeting in Tangier in the Kingdom of Morocco to mark World Maritime Day 2014 Parallel event, adopt the present Declaration, and kindly request the IMO Secretary-General to bring its spirit and content to the attention of all IMO Member States.

**Tangier,  
Kingdom of Morocco,  
28th October 2014**

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