



COUNCIL
102nd session
Agenda item 18

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EXTERNAL RELATIONS

(a) Relations with the United Nations and the specialized agencies

Report on the outcome of the tenth meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (ICP)

Note by the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This document reports on the outcome of the tenth meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (ICP)
<i>Strategic direction:</i>	1.1
<i>High-level action:</i>	1.1.2
<i>Planned output:</i>	Not applicable
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 5
<i>Related documents:</i>	Not applicable

1 The United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (ICP) held its tenth meeting at the UN Headquarters in New York from 17 to 19 June 2009. The Meeting was attended by 99 States and several international governmental and non-governmental organizations.

2 The main focus of the ICP discussion was on the implementation of the outcomes of the Consultative Process, including a review of the ICP's achievements and shortcomings in its nine previous meetings and, to facilitate this, the meeting was divided into plenary sessions and discussion panels.

3 On behalf of IMO, the Senior Deputy Director, Sub-Division for Legal Affairs, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, provided an overview of IMO's participation at the ICP, referring in particular, to measures to strengthen flag, port and coastal State jurisdiction to ensure safety at sea and the protection of the marine environment; ships' routing and

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protection of vital sea lanes; safety of fishing vessels; carriage of hazardous and dangerous goods at sea; prevention of pollution in particularly sensitive sea areas (PSSAs); prevention of air pollution from ships; and liability and compensation for damage caused to the marine environment in connection with the carriage of oil and other hazardous and noxious substances at sea. He also informed the meeting of the adoption of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships as well as the latest developments within IMO regarding LRIT, reduction of greenhouse gasses from ships and suppression of piracy.

He commented that the “consensual elements” adopted by the ICP, and later included in draft resolutions for adoption by the United Nations General Assembly, had raised the profile of IMO’s work in the UN; in particular with respect to the way in which IMO has been implementing provisions pertaining to shipping contained in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). He also suggested that ICP working methods be adapted, to align them more closely with the recommendations contained in the annual General Assembly resolutions, as well as to enable a more significant participation on the part of intergovernmental organizations attending ICP meetings.

4 A report of the Co-Chairpersons’ summary of the discussions will be made available shortly on the website of the UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS).

Action requested of the Council

5 The Council is invited to take note of the information provided in this document and comment as it deems appropriate.
