

MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION
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Agenda item 7

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REDUCTION OF GHG EMISSIONS FROM SHIPS

Establishment of a GMN voluntary multi-donor trust fund

Submitted by Cambodia, China, Ecuador, Georgia,
Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica and Kenya

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document provides an update on the activities of the Global Maritime Technology Cooperation Centres Network (GMN) and seeks the consideration of the Committee to establish a dedicated voluntary multi-donor trust fund to sustain the activities of GMN with a view to supporting the implementation of the *Initial IMO Strategy on reduction of GHG emissions from ships*

Strategic direction, if applicable: Not applicable

Output: Not applicable

Action to be taken: Paragraph 16

Related documents: Resolutions MEPC.229(65) and MEPC.304(72)

The Global MTCC Network

1 Funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by IMO, the GMN project (formally titled "Capacity Building for Climate Mitigation in the Maritime Shipping Industry") was initiated in response to resolution MEPC.229(65) on *Promotion of technical co-operation and transfer of technology relating to the improvement of energy efficiency of ships* to unite Maritime Technologies Cooperation Centres (MTCCs) in targeted regions into a global network. Together, these MTCCs are promoting technologies and operations to improve energy efficiency in the maritime sector and help navigate shipping into a low-carbon future. Developing countries and, in particular Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are the main beneficiaries of this initiative.

2 GMN is an existing institutional mechanism that has a solid presence in targeted regions with strong technical expertise that includes capacity-building, research and development, private-public partnerships, and technology transfer in the shipping industry.

3 GMN has a broad world coverage with at least 80 countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Pacific and Caribbean regions. By the end of the project, MTCC Asia will have three satellite offices established in Asia and MTCC Pacific will have one satellite office in the Pacific.

4 GMN is also successfully implementing 10 pilot projects that are focused on fuel consumption data collection and energy efficient technologies, including improvement of operations in ports and shore-to-ship power supply projects.

5 Given the achievements of GMN, the co-sponsors are grateful for the financial and technical support provided by the EU and IMO.

6 The EU-IMO project that supported the establishment of GMN is scheduled to end in December 2019. However, the interests and needs expressed by IMO Member States to continue receiving support from GMN is growing substantially.

Progress

7 The Committee adopted at its seventy-second session (9 to 13 April 2018) resolution MEPC.304(72) on *Initial IMO Strategy on reduction of GHG emissions from ships* which recognizes that developing countries, in particular LDCs and SIDS, have special needs with regard to capacity-building and technical cooperation (paragraph 5.1).

8 The Committee, while adopting the Strategy, also agreed that it should continue to provide mechanisms for facilitating information sharing, technology transfer, capacity-building and technical cooperation, taking into account resolution MEPC.229(65) on *Promotion of technical co-operation and transfer of technology relating to the improvement of energy efficiency of ships* (paragraph 5.4).

9 The Committee is invited to recall that the Organization was requested to assess periodically the provision of financial and technological resources and capacity-building through initiatives such as GMN, among others.

10 The Committee is also invited to recall that during MEPC 72, a number of delegations expressed in their interventions their satisfaction with the work of GMN and highlighted the importance of the continuation of GMN beyond 2019. It was then proposed that the Organization considers approaching various donors to sustain GMN and, if possible, to establish a dedicated fund to support the wider objectives of the Network (MEPC 72/17, paragraphs 12.5 to 12.7).

Continuation of GMN beyond 2019

11 Strong technical expertise and regional outreach of GMN enables it to support a number of the candidate measures specified in the Strategy including: supporting the countries in developing and updating national action plans and strategies to address GHG emissions from international shipping; enhancing technical cooperation and capacity-building activities; initiating research and development activities addressing marine propulsion, alternative low-carbon and zero-carbon fuels, and innovative technologies to further enhance the energy efficiency of ships.

12 The existence of GMN beyond 2019 can therefore significantly contribute to the successful implementation of the *Initial IMO Strategy on reduction of GHG emissions from ships*.

13 Although the EU provided the initial seed funding to establish GMN, a long-term funding strategy to support this global institutional framework is essential. Establishing a dedicated voluntary multi-donor trust fund by the IMO Secretariat with the objective of supporting the GMN activities reflected in paragraph 10 would be the most feasible option to sustain GMN.

14 Taking into account resolution MEPC.229(65) on *Promotion of technical co-operation and transfer of technology relating to the improvement of energy efficiency of ships*, and further taking into consideration resolution MEPC.304(72) on *Initial IMO Strategy on reduction of GHG emissions from ships* and specifically its section 5 related to barriers and supportive measures; capacity-building and technical cooperation and R&D, the co-sponsors request the Organization to consider establishing a dedicated voluntary trust fund at the IMO Secretariat to support the objectives and activities of the MTCC network. In order to operationalize such a fund, the IMO Member States, especially the developed States, as well as various bilateral and multi-lateral donors, are encouraged to mobilize resources for this purpose.

15 The co-sponsors, bearing in mind the vision and levels of ambition contained in the *Initial IMO strategy on reduction of GHG emissions from ships*, and after reviewing the operations and achievements made by the Global MTCC Network, request that the GMN project which established the MTCC Network be continued beyond 2019 to support implementation of the Initial IMO Strategy.

Action requested of the Committee

16 The Committee is invited to take note of the activities of GMN and consider the proposal to establish the GMN voluntary multi-donor trust fund at the IMO Secretariat to sustain GMN in support of the implementation of the *Initial IMO Strategy on reduction of GHG emissions from ships*.
