

COUNCIL
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Agenda item 17(d)

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EXTERNAL RELATIONS

(d) Relations with non-governmental organizations

Report of the Group of Council Members

1 As instructed by the Council, a group of Council Members met on 29 and 30 June 2015, under the chairmanship of Ms. Valerie Simpson (Jamaica), to review and advise the Council on new applications for consultative status submitted by the following organizations:

- .1 The International Port Community Systems Association (IPCSA); and
- .2 The One Earth Future Foundation (OEF),

as annexed to document C 114/17(d).

2 The group was also instructed to advise the Council in the context of the periodic review of organizations already in consultative status with IMO, as contained in document C 114/17(d)/1.

3 The group was composed of representatives from the delegations of Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Liberia, Mexico, Sweden and Turkey. Representatives from the delegations of Australia and the United States of America also participated in the discussions of the group.

4 The group reviewed the applications and the information provided, in accordance with the Rules and Guidelines for Consultative Status of Non-Governmental International Organizations with the International Maritime Organization ("the Rules and Guidelines"). The views of the group are given below.

New applications for consultative status

5 The group commended the quality and completeness of the information provided by the two organizations applying for consultative status.

International Port Community Systems Association (IPCSA)

6 The group was of the opinion that IPCSA had met the criteria set out in the Rules and Guidelines and that it could potentially make a valuable contribution to the work of the Organization in areas related to the facilitation of maritime traffic, in particular on Maritime Single Window systems.

7 The group, therefore, agreed to recommend to the Council to grant consultative status to the International Port Community Systems Association (IPCSA). The group also agreed that IPCSA should be encouraged to continue the expansion of its membership in all the regions.

8 The group recommended that, within the classification of organizations in consultative status by interests/activity, IPCSA be placed under Trade.

One Earth Future Foundation (OEF)

9 The group noted that OEF appeared to be a "projects-oriented" organization and acknowledged that two of its projects, namely Oceans Beyond Piracy and Secure Fisheries, are related to IMO's mandate. However, the group expressed its reservations regarding the structure of OEF and the fact that it did not have members, as required by rule 5 of the Rules and Guidelines. In addition, the group noted that OEF enjoyed working relationships with some organizations already in consultative status with IMO.

10 The group, therefore, was concerned that the application submitted by OEF did not meet the criteria set out in rule 5 on the Constitution and structure of the non-governmental international organization and agreed to recommend to the Council not to grant it consultative status.

Periodic review of organizations in consultative status

11 As instructed by the Council, the group carried out a preliminary review of the organizations currently in consultative status with IMO, in accordance with the Rules and Guidelines. The views of the group are given below.

12 The group noted with appreciation that all organizations in consultative status had submitted a report for the Council's consideration outlining their interest in, and contribution to, the work of the Organization during the period under review, as well as explaining how they disseminated information on, and promoted the work of, IMO to their membership and other stakeholders. The information provided was valuable and assisted the group in completing its task.

13 The group noted that there were two organizations that did not attend any IMO meetings or submit any documents during the period under review, namely PIANC, the World Association for Waterborne Transport Infrastructure and the International Ocean Institute (IOI).

14 The group also noted that the Council had in the past been concerned about PIANC's lack of contribution to the work of IMO. The group examined the information contained in the report submitted by PIANC to the Council; however, it did not identify any information which demonstrated a substantial contribution to the work of the Organization.

15 The group, therefore, agreed to recommend to the Council to withdraw PIANC's consultative status and to advise the Assembly accordingly.

16 The group also noted that the Council had in the past been concerned about IOI's contribution to the work of IMO. However, the group examined the information contained in the report submitted by IOI to the Council and noted that IOI, through its Southern Africa Operational Centre (IOI-SA), had contributed to the work of IMO in a number of projects and technical cooperation activities related to ballast water during the review period. Therefore, the group agreed to recommend to the Council that a letter be sent to IOI commending its contribution to the work of IMO through the GloBallast Partnerships Programme and, at the same time, encouraging it to participate in IMO meetings relevant to its work.

17 Regarding the Iberoamerican Institute of Maritime Law (IIDM), an organization which had been approached in the past for not contributing sufficiently to the work of IMO, it was noted that IIDM had only attended one meeting during the period under review. However, the group noted that IIDM had already been contributing to IMO's work in the forthcoming 2015-2017 review period by attending and submitting a number of documents to IMO meetings, as well as by promoting the work of IMO. Therefore, the group agreed to recommend to the Council that a letter be sent to IIDM noting its contribution to the work of IMO in the next review period and encouraging it to continue participating in IMO meetings relevant to its work.

18 There were no objections for the remaining organizations with consultative status retaining that status with the Organization.

19 The group expressed sincere appreciation of the work of the Secretariat which assisted them in their deliberations.

Action requested of the Council

20 The Council is invited to:

- .1 note the group's recommendations with respect to the new applications for consultative status and decide as it may deem appropriate;
- .2 note the group's recommendations with respect to the non-governmental organizations in consultative status and decide as it may deem appropriate; and
- .3 emphasize the requirement for all non-governmental organizations in consultative status to contribute substantially to the work of IMO.