

COUNCIL
117th session
Agenda item 15(f)

C 117/15(f)/1
4 November 2016
Original: SPANISH

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

(f) Report of the Day of the Seafarer 2016

Submitted by the Argentine Republic

SUMMARY

Executive summary: The purpose of this document is to inform Council Members of the activities that took place in celebration of the Day of the Seafarer 2016, which was held on 25 June

Strategic direction: 11.1

High-level action: 11.1.1 and 11.1.2

Output: No related provisions

Action to be taken: Paragraph 7

Related documents: A 29/19(h) and Circular Letter No.3616

Background

1 On 22 March 2016, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) published on its IMODOCS website Circular Letter No.3616, in which it gave information about the activities that would take place over the course of the current year for World Maritime Day and the Day of the Seafarer.

2 Further, it advised in the Circular Letter that the 2016 World Maritime Day parallel event would be celebrated in the Republic of Turkey, from 4 to 6 November.

3 In turn, Member States were invited to celebrate the events on the dates indicated and thereafter to submit information related to those celebrations to the Secretariat. The theme of World Maritime Day 2016 is "Shipping: indispensable to the world". It was stated in the Circular that, for 2016, the Day of the Seafarer campaign would be closely related to the World Maritime Day theme and have as its theme "At Sea for All".

Development

4 In that regard, a ceremony was held on 15 July in the public area of Dock 4 in the Puerto Madero district of Buenos Aires, the place where a statue had been unveiled for the corresponding celebrations in 2015. In the same place stands a pillar, which was erected in 2010 when the Argentine Republic hosted the World Maritime Day parallel event.

5 The 2016 celebrations were organized by the Argentine Naval League and were attended by senior officials from the Argentine Coast Guard, the country's Maritime Authority, the Argentine Navy, the Undersecretariat of Ports and Waterways, under the Ministry of Transport, and representatives of the country's main maritime and port unions. During the course of the ceremony, speeches were made honouring the Day and underscoring the need to continue planning strategies jointly in order to promote the importance of the personnel working in the maritime sector.

6 During the course of the celebrations for the Day of the Seafarer, the Argentine Coast Guard published on its official website a brief outline of the event, extending the campaign promoted by the IMO to all seafarers and inviting the general public to participate actively through the various social networks (Facebook and Twitter), of which the Argentine Coast Guard is also a part.

Action requested of the Council

7 Members of the Council are invited to:

- .1 note the information provided in this document; and
- .2 recognize the importance of giving widespread exposure to the celebrations held as part of the Day of the Seafarer, as this area of work is vital for the success of a sustainable maritime transportation system, of great assistance in meeting the Organization's objectives and fundamental for the development and growth of the economies of States.