

COUNCIL
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Agenda item 15(g)

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EXTERNAL RELATIONS

(g) IMO Maritime Ambassador Scheme

Submitted by the Argentine Republic

SUMMARY

Executive summary: The purpose of this document is to inform the Council of the activities undertaken by the officials designated by the Argentine Republic within the framework of the IMO Maritime Ambassadors Scheme

Strategic direction: 11.2

High-level action: 11.2.1

Output: No related provisions

Action to be taken: Paragraph 14

Related documents: A 29/19(h), A 29/19(h)/1 and Circular Letter No.3527

Background

1 In February 2015, the Secretary-General established the IMO Maritime Ambassador Scheme. As described in the annex to Circular Letter No.3527 of 16 February 2015, the purpose of the IMO Maritime Ambassador Scheme is to reach new target audiences and inspire a new generation of maritime experts and seafarers.

2 It complements the Day of the Seafarer campaign and World Maritime Day activities and the Organization will seek to maximize its impact by actively promoting and sharing news of individual Ambassadors' activities through its social media outlets. Consistent with both the Strategic Plan and the theme chosen by the Council for World Maritime Day 2016, the IMO Maritime Ambassador Scheme holds great potential to raise the profile of the safety, security and environmental record of shipping in the eyes of civil society while also publicizing the vital importance of shipping and underlining the role of the Organization in establishing global standards for international shipping.

3 In this context, the Argentine Republic, in its March 2015 submission, designated two officials in accordance with the aforementioned Circular Letter No.3527. In May 2015, a further two officials were added to the existing list, giving a total of four Argentine Maritime Ambassadors, all members of the Prefectura Naval Argentina (Argentine Coast Guard), the country's Maritime Authority.

Activities

4 Since being appointed, the IMO Maritime Ambassadors of the Argentine Republic have participated in a wide variety of events designed to promote the importance of shipping, the work of IMO and to encourage younger people to consider taking up careers at sea. Among such activities were the series of talks organized by the Port Research Centre in Rosario, Santa Fe Province, on 2 August 2016; and the 2016 Admiral Storni lectures on Argentine Maritime Interests, organized by the Argentine Naval League over three days between 27 September and 21 October, in Buenos Aires.

5 In summary, the Argentine Republic is receiving significant benefit from the efforts of its IMO Maritime Ambassadors, also to the benefit of the Organization. The Argentine Republic looks forward to increasing the engagement of its IMO Maritime Ambassadors in future years.

Action requested of the Council

6 Council Members are invited to:

- .1 note the information contained in this document; and
- .2 make known the intention of the Argentine Republic to continue supporting the aim of the IMO Maritime Ambassador Scheme proposed by the Secretary-General, in order that the designated officials may continue to share their knowledge, experience and enthusiasm with the maritime world, including with young people just embarking on their careers, practical training or professional path.
