



COUNCIL
23rd extraordinary session
Agenda item 14(d)

C/ES.23/14(d)
31 August 2005
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EXTERNAL RELATIONS

(d) Report on World Maritime Day 2005

Note by the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document reports on the status of World Maritime Day for 2005

Action to be taken: Paragraph 7

Related documents: C 93/D, C 94/17(e) and C 94/D

1 In accordance with the practice approved by the Assembly and the Council, this year's World Maritime Day will be celebrated at IMO Headquarters on 29 September 2005 and a report on the celebration will be provided in an addendum to this document.

2 The theme for 2005, as approved by the Council at its ninety-third session, is:

“INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING – CARRIER OF WORLD TRADE”

3 As in previous years, the Secretary-General will circulate to Governments and organizations associated with the work of IMO information and material to assist them in planning their own activities for the Day. The material to be circulated includes:

- .1 a cassette recording of a message from the Secretary-General;
- .2 the text of the Secretary-General's message; and
- .3 a statement on the theme for 2005, as specified in paragraph 2 above.

4 At its ninety-fourth session, the Council noted the Secretary-General's proposals to revitalize World Maritime Day and to promote it more widely in the future, including encouraging the appropriate authorities of Member States to organize suitable ceremonies and other events to better celebrate the Day and to inform the Secretariat, by 15 September 2005, of any activities they were planning to this end; also to provide any other relevant information to enable the Secretary-General to report to the Council at this session.

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly asked to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

5 The Council had also agreed, in principle, with the Secretary-General's proposal that, in addition to the Day being celebrated in London, interested Members might offer to host 'parallel' events, on a trial basis, the outcome of which the Council might then take into account when making final decisions.

6 In response to the Secretary-General's proposal outlined in paragraph 4 above, the Government of Portugal has offered to host such an event in parallel with the London celebrations. The Council will be informed of the outcome of the Portuguese event in due course.

Action requested of the Council

7 The Council is invited to take note of the information provided in this document.
