

Minutes of a meeting of the Association's

Marine Policy & Regulatory Affairs Committee

Held on 11th November 2023 from 13:30 hours by videoconference

Those present:

Peter McCombie TechnipFMC Chair
Dennis Janssen Allseas Vice Chair

Matt Thomas Bibby Marine
Eugene van Dodeweerd Boskalis
Frederic Siobhan Bourbon
Gerd Van de Merlen Deme Group

Joost Rotgans Heerema Marine Contractors

Stuart Ross Jan de Nul
Angelo Tossio Maersk supply
Evan McLaughlin McDermott
Saverio La Forgia Saipem
Aurelien Verrier Saipem

Kyle Pemberton Seacor Marine Gary Ritchie Subsea 7

Lee Billingham IMCA

Margaret Fitzgerald IMCA Secretary

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Secretariat welcomed members to the meeting and advised the Committee that apologies for absence had been received from Remko Kloos (Fugro), Liesbeth den Haan (Van Oord) and Linda Behage (Van Oord). The Chair Peter McCombie (TechnipFMC) joined the meeting late due to a prior commitment.

2.0 COMPETITION LAW COMPLIANCE POLICY

The Secretary opened the meeting with a reminder about the IMCA competition law compliance policy.

3.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

3.1 Approval of the Minutes

3.1.1 The draft minutes of the Committee's meeting held on 2nd October 2023 had been circulated to members and there being no additional comments, the minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting. The Chair will provide a signed copy to the Minutes to the Secretary electronically after the meeting.

Action: Peter McCombie

3.2 Matters arising from the Minutes not covered by the Agenda

3.2.1 There was nothing to consider under this item.

WORK PROGRAMME

4.0 Update on the Focal Group on GHG Emissions from Ships

- 4.1 Margaret Fitzgerald introduced the Committee to Lee Billingham who has joined the IMCA Secretariat to run the GHG Focal Group.
- 4.2 The Committee was advised that there are 9 Members represented in the Focal Group, all of which are IMCA Board Members. Other members are welcome to join.
- 4.3 It was noted that John Matthews of Subsea 7 has agreed to chair the meetings and he is in the process of drawing up a list of the top 5 issues the Group will focus on. It is expected that the Group will meet formally for the first time before the end of the year and will report its' progress to the MPRA Committee as its parent committee throughout 2024.

5.0 Development of a White Paper for the Offshore Marine Contracting Sector

- 5.1 The Committee recalled that, at its' meeting in May, a presentation was made by Maersk Supply on its' 10-point Decarbonisation Plan for the OSV sector which will be championed by ISOA at COP 28. The Committee agreed that this document should also be championed by IMCA and published under the MPRA Committee on the IMCA website.
- 5.2 The Committee, recognising that it had already committed to developing a corresponding White Paper for the Marine Contracting Industry, agreed that the Maersk Supply document should form the basis of this work. Angelo Tossio of Maersk Supply agreed to seek permission for the document to be used and amended as appropriate.

6.0 Update on IMCA's engagement with Spinergie on fuel consumption and a carbon intensity metric for the sector

- 6.1 Margaret Fitzgerald advised the Committee that, at its' September meeting, the IMCA Board approved the project. The Committee was informed that a meeting with Spinergie was being scheduled for the 28th November to discuss the detailed data requirements for the project. Members of the Committee who have vessels of 5,000 GT and above and who will be participating in this project were urged to attend to ensure that any concerns or questions they may have are raised and addressed.
- 6.2 Margaret Fitzgerald advised that we need to finalise modes of activity which Spinergie will work on and address some other issues before the project commences.

Action: Committee Members

7.0 Further consideration on IP Code Matters

- 7.1 The Committee was reminded that the new mandatory IP Code will enter into force on 1st July 2024 and recalled that the Committee had produced a Guidance document for the industry (IMCA REG 005) which has been published on IMCA's website and also submitted to IMO for information. To date, there have been no comments on the contents of the document.
- 7.2 Several members drew attention to the fact that the situation on implementation of the new IP Code is still very unclear. When approached for guidance some Class societies have advised that they have not yet been provided with any guidance on the Code by their Flags and when various Flags have been approached for guidance they claim to still be working on producing appropriate guidance. Consequently, at present, the only published guidance appears to be the IMCA document.
- 7.3 The Chair advised that he considered the two main issues to be:
 - .1 Personnel Transfer Equipment; and
 - .2 Dangerous Goods in bulk.

7.4 The Committee agreed that it would be useful for IMCA to publish another Information Note highlighting the importance of the grandfathering provisions and urging members to approach their Flag/Class Society as a matter of urgency to ensure the grandfathering provisions can be availed of before entry into force of the Code on 1st July 2024.

8.0 GHG Seminar

8.1 The Committee was advised that IMCA is planning a GHG seminar in Europe for Q1 of 2024. Further information would be circulated to the Committee in due course.

9.0 COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES FOR 2024

- 9.1 The Committee reviewed the following list of objectives for 2024 and agreed to work with the GHG Focal Group which sits under it to ensure there is no duplication of effort:
 - .1 Follow the development of further mid-term measures at IMO as part of its' revised GHG Strategy Develop reporting standards for Offshore industry with suppliers and clients
 - .2 Publish Information Notes to keep the membership aware of regulatory issues addressing carbon trading regimes applicable to shipping, regulatory/technological progress in the development of alternative fuels, engine systems, ship design, and other improvements, referencing the work of reputable knowledge institutes and subject matter experts in this area
 - .3 Develop suitable information papers on the regulatory requirements for future fuels and the Life Cycle Assessment of fuels being developed by IMO
 - .4 Develop a White Paper for the decarbonisation of the offshore marine contracting sector based on the Maersk 10-point decarbonisation plan for the OSV sector
 - .6 Identify and publish information notes on best practices and technical difficulties to be considered with new fuels and systems
 - .7 Hold seminars to showcase progress, provide a platform for industry experts, and provide a sounding board for our members
 - .8 Engage with the Maersk McKinney Centre and the Global Centre for Decarbonization of Shipping

10.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (AOB)

The Committee briefly discussed several issues under this agenda item.

Continuing the fuel consumption data collection project into 2024

10.1 The Committee noted that, despite the fact that IMCA was engaging with Spinergie to conduct a detailed assessment of the two proposed proxies based on activity mode, the Committee's ongoing project which collects fuel consumption data to assess the two proxies proposed to IMO will continue in 2024. IMCA will undertake a marketing campaign urging members with vessels ≥5,000 GT to support the project by submitting their 2023 data via the spreadsheet available on IMCA's website.

10.2 Onboard Lifting Equipment

It was agreed that an Information Note on the new SOLAS requirements for lifting appliances and anchor handling winches on board ships should be developed. Dennis Janssen offered to develop a draft and Peter McCombie offered to circulate some information on this which he had already shared with the Bahamas.

Ballast Water Management Convention review

- 10.3 Margaret Fitzgerald reminded the Committee that IMO's Ballast Water Management Convention entered into force on 8th September 2017.
- 10.4 The Committee recalled that all international sea going ships under the Convention must implement a 'Ballast water management plan' that enables the ship to manage their ballast water and sediment discharge to a certain standard. The plan is designed to meet the requirements for compliance with the Convention and the G4 Guidelines produced by the IMO. It includes standard operational guidance, planning and management, as well as additional details including sampling points and

systems. Additionally all ships over 400GT must also carry a ballast water record book that details such requirements as the filling and discharge of each tank, according to time, date, location and the treatment applied to the water. Ships that comply with the Convention will receive and are duly required to carry an International Ballast Water Management Certificate. To receive a certificate, a ship will have to supply the necessary documentation showing compliance with the Convention and a survey will be carried out on-board either by a Flag State, or by a Classification Society who have been authorised by a Flag State.

- 10.5 The Committee was advised that IMO is now conducting a review of the Convention (known as the experience building phase) in which IMCA is participating. The outcome of this work will be passed to the Committee for review in due course.
- 10.6 The Committee's attention was brought to the fact that the IOPP extra time window is closing soon and the US Coast Guard alternative management system is also coming to an end. Members were also advised that, if a system is now fitted to a vessel, it will need verification testing and there are some differences in how this is being interpreted among Flag States.

Reviewing the ESC document on Life Below Water

10.7 Margaret Fitzgerald advised the Committee that the Environmental Sustainability Committee was developing a document on life below water which references ballast water and the regulatory requirements pertaining thereto. She advised that the document would be circulated to the Committee for comment within the following week or two.

11.0 DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

11.1 The members agreed that the next two Committee meetings should take place virtually on 30th January and 14th March at 13.30 time. It was agreed that the subsequent meeting in Q2 should be a face-to-face meeting. The Secretary will circulate an invitation and advise the Committee of the agenda in due course.

		Action: Margaret Fitzgerald
	Peter McCombie	6 th February 2024
Signed as a true record	Name	Date

ANNEX 1

AGENDA

1	COMPETITION LAW COMPLIANCE POLICY
2	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
3	ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING
	WORK PROGRAMME
4	Update on GHG Vessel Emissions Focal Group
5	Development of a White Paper for the Offshore Marine Contracting Sector
6	Update on IMCA's engagement with Spinergie on fuel consumption and a carbon intensity metric for the sector
7	Further consideration on IP Code Matters
8	GHG Seminar in Q1 of 2024
9	Committee objectives for 2024
10	Any Other Business

Meeting dates for Q1 of 2024 including plans for a face-to-face meeting

11