

Minutes of a meeting of the Association’s HSSE Security Committee held on 11 April 2024 from 1330 BST (UTC+1) via videoconference

Members present or joining via videoconference are recorded in section 2.

1 Competition law compliance policy

The IMCA Competition Law Compliance Policy, which had been circulated with the meeting agenda, was drawn to the attention of all present.

2 Welcome and attendance

The chair welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies for absence were recorded, with the latest meeting attendance now as follows:

Name	Company	Jun-23	Oct-23	Jan-24	TODAY
Nicolas Krmic	Subsea 7	✔ Attended	✔ Attended	✔ Attended	✔ Attended
Rolinda van Zanten	Van Oord Offshore	✔ Attended	✔ Attended	✔ Attended	✉ Apologies
Anton van Heiningen	Heerema Marine Contractors	✉ Apologies	✉ Apologies	✉ Apologies	✔ Attended
Diana Khatun	IOGP	✉ Apologies	✉ Apologies	✉ Apologies	✔ Attended
Chris Darville	Helix Energy Solutions Group, Inc.	✉ Apologies	Absent	✉ Apologies	Absent
Russell Pegg	OCIMF	✔ Attended	✔ Attended	✔ Attended	✔ Attended
Ben Neal	P&O Maritime Logistics	N/A	✔ Attended	✉ Apologies	✉ Apologies
Gaelle Serquin-Peyraud	SBM Offshore	✔ Attended	✔ Attended	✔ Attended	✔ Attended
Bernard Rouault	Saipem	✉ Apologies	✉ Apologies	✔ Attended	✔ Attended
Dag Snemyr	Siem Offshore	N/A	N/A	N/A	✔ Attended
Bjorn Holstad	Solstad Shipping	✔ Attended	✔ Attended	✔ Attended	✉ Apologies
Gary Ritchie	Subsea 7	✉ Apologies	✔ Attended	✔ Attended	✉ Apologies
Alister Lockhart	TechnipFMC	✉ Apologies	✉ Apologies	✉ Apologies	✉ Apologies
Nick Hough	IMCA	✔ Attended	✔ Attended	✔ Attended	✔ Attended

Legend:

✔ Attended	✔ Part-Time	S Substitute	✉ Apologies	Absent	N/A
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3 Minutes of the previous meeting

3.1 Approval of the minutes

The minutes were agreed and would be signed as an accurate record by the Chair.

3.2 Changes to committee membership

Dag Snemyr of Siem Offshore was welcomed to the committee. Dag introduced himself.

4 Joint Industry Security Group – update

Russell Pegg reported that revision of BMP 5 (*Best Management Practices to Deter Piracy and Enhance Maritime Security in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea*) was ongoing; there would be a slight shift of title reflecting the focus on maritime security. It would be available in due course both online and as a printed copy.

It was noted that security information was available from several different western military presences in the middle east, not all of whom were working closely together. It was not always clear to seafarers locally who should be called in an emergency, or from whom to seek information and assistance.

5 Maritime security in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden

Members discussed the current situation; a number of members were sending their vessel assets “round the Cape” rather than through the Red Sea. A watching brief was to be maintained on an upsurge in criminality and piracy in the Gulf of Aden, and also on events in the Strait of Hormuz in the coming days.

6 Maritime security elsewhere

6.1 Ukraine and Black Sea

Contractors were continuing to work in parts of the Black Sea, with the attendant security risks and issues such as drifting mines. There was good co-operation with shore-based support, particularly in Turkey. Local elections in Turkey may impact the security of operations. The Turkish government may seek to become the geopolitical broker of the whole area.

Members discussed possible similar tension between the west and Russia in other areas, such as the Baltic Sea and the Barents Sea. It was observed that spoofing and jamming of satellite positioning signals was occurring in places, and in places, Russian vessels were approaching client facilities.

6.2 Mozambique / GoG

Not so much to report from Mozambique at present. Much would depend on the decision made by the oil majors as regards future work there. Northern Mozambique would be a particular challenge in the context of ensuring the safety of crews travelling to and from assets offshore.

Some members noted that they were engaged well with private clinics in countries along the Gulf of Guinea, to provide medical support to crews as required. It was noted that working offshore Nigeria was more straightforward today than it was ten years ago, excepting the ongoing need for care in ensuring safe crew changes.

Members discussed ongoing challenges with working in Equatorial Guinea.

6.3 Taiwan

Geopolitical tension was rising in this area as Chinese influence expanded locally. North Korea also remained an area worthy of keeping an eye on.

6.4 Eastern Mediterranean

The challenge perceived in this area was related to managing subsequent work if a contractor was seen to have previously worked in or near or with Israeli waters or assets. This was a question for members’ Boards of Directors to resolve rather than this committee.

7 Activism

Some committee members noted that certain offshore structures had been approached or boarded by persons from Greenpeace. These incidents were intended to generate media coverage and maximum publicity and to temporarily stop the operation. It was noted that Greenpeace personnel were very adaptable and very professional, and had managed to block the client's operation for 24 hours or more.

Members discussed the appropriate response to these boardings. It was noted that IMCA members would benefit from the experience gained by this contractor. Information would be shared which could be developed into an Information Note to inform and guide the wider membership on how to respond to activism.

Action: Committee members, Nick Hough

Members may wish to refer to the following video <https://youtu.be/KMf36-GOK90> from the UK Renewable Energy Emergency Forum on "Exercise Sancho", an exercise designed to test emergency services arrangements and procedures in response to a significant offshore renewables emergency – in this context, of interest because the exercise modelled the involvement of activists who boarding an installation.

8 Cyber security

It was noted that the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine was creating issues in cyber security, and that the Iranians were also involving themselves in cyber attacks. Members asked if there were different cyber security emphases in different areas of the world or if there was a single go-to place for Cyber security information.

It was noted that AIS spoofing and GPS spoofing and jamming remained the greatest threat, particularly in conflict areas, with AIS spoofing occurring near where Russian vessels had been observed.

Members may wish to refer to:

<https://gpsjam.org/> GPS jamming interference map

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/> UK National cybersecurity Centre

<https://www.uscg.mil/MaritimeCyber/> *"a collaborative effort between the USCG, CISA, and MARAD to ensure current maritime cyber threat information is available to the public and industry stakeholders"*

9 Recent events and news update

- 10 April - Greenhouse gas forum ProjectGHG - Papendrecht, Netherlands
- 18 April - UK Maritime Security Forum – London (NH attending)
- including:
 - Maritime Security Awareness in the Middle East and the Gulf of Guinea
 - Arms Flow Dynamics in the Middle East: Regional and Global Links
- 15 May - Middle East and India Regional meeting, Dubai

10 Any other business

None.

11 Summary of action items

Action	Responsible	Target
Develop Information Note on handling activism	NH	End Q2 2024

12 Date and location of next meetings

Tuesday 9 July in Rotterdam with dinner on the Monday evening 8 July

Wednesday 16 October by videoconference

Signed as a true record

Name

Date