

### **Europe and Africa Regional Committee**

**Minutes** of a meeting of the Association's Europe and Africa Regional Committee held on 30 January 2024 from 12:00 GMT via videoconference

Those present or joining via videoconference:

Cinthya Lopes (CL) Simwave Chair

Rolf Røssland (RR) NUI AS Vice Chair

Jannie Scholtz (JS) Mackay Marine

Andrew Laing (AL) Unique

David York (DY) Saipem

Mary Ntamark (MN) IMCA

Johanna Summers (JoS) IMCA

Grace Ellsworth (GE) IMCA

#### 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 by **MN**.

#### 2 Welcome and apologies for absence

**GE** welcomed committee members and gave apologies for absences.

#### **Apologies**

JP Kearns (JK) XOCEAN

#### 3 Minutes of the previous meeting

#### 3.1 Approval of the minutes

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

#### 3.2 Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda

There were no matters arising from the minutes that were not covered by existing agenda items.

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#### 4 Welcome new member

**MN** welcomed **DY** who will be stepping in to replace Michael Stothard as Saipem's representative on the committee. The committee looks forward to working with him and benefiting from his technical expertise. **MN** and **GE** will follow up with **DY** to set up an official induction to the committee before the next meeting.

#### 5 In-person event updates

**JoS** informed everyone that the event has been added to IMCA's website and registrations are live. **JoS** advised those who plan on attending should officially register.

At the previous meeting there was the suggestion to split the agenda over two days. However, **MN** checked with events and IMCA management and advised that regional events are approved for one day only- therefore this suggestion will not be possible.

**MN** informed the committee that IMCA met with Alain Kerr from SAOGA and **AL** before this meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January. SAOGA committed to roll out marketing for the event at the start of February including:

- Posting on their website,
- Sending out mailers, and
- Sharing on social media.

Additionally, SAOGA agreed to put forward a few of their members to be panellists for the event. The plan for the panel discussion is to have a theme relating to challenges and innovations within the offshore industry in Africa. **MN** suggested that the committee decide a specific theme so SAOGA can provide relevant candidates. From his experience in West Africa, **JS** expressed the most prudent challenges he observes are that of logistics including the availability of travel and obtaining work permits. While **AL** agreed these were real challenges for the region, he was unsure whether this would be an entertaining enough theme. **CL** and **AL** suggested that SAOGA themselves should advise on a theme since they are more informed on the activities of the region. The rest of the committee agreed to ask SAOGA for their input on the panel discussion theme.

The confirmed speakers and presentation topics for the event include:

- 1. Mike Jessop- Diving Safety and Regulations in South Africa
- 2. Commander Mojalefa Lebea- South African Navy Diving Training

It was previously planned that *CL* could give a presentation on DP, however she informed the committee it is likely she will no longer be able to attend the event. *CL* suggested *JS* as an alternative DP speaker with extensive experience and expertise on the subject. Following the meeting, *JS* agreed to present and suggested the topic, "Assuring safe DP operations with an ageing fleet older than 10 years".

The Navy has expressed interest in the event and offered to provide another speaker. **DB** told the committee Fugro has also volunteered to provide a presentation and suggested the subject of AUVs. Additionally, Bridget Thompson the owner of C-DOC (Commercial Diving and Offshore Consultancy) based in South Africa, offered to speak on "The role of environmental factors in affecting a person's health".

**MN** expressed Bridget Thompson could be an opportunity to improve the diversity of speakers since currently there are no female presenters planned. **RR** agreed that the event would benefit from speaker diversity, but expressed that the agenda is already diving heavy and thought this topic might be too narrow to appeal to attendees. **CL** agreed another diving presentation was unnecessary and suggested a speaker from offshore wind on the energy transition might be more interesting. To aid diversity, **RR** suggested challenging Fugro and other volunteers for female speakers

Speaking on the event's agenda, *CL* recommended including a case studies in the afternoon presentation slot . *AL* proposed that Fugro might be interested in doing a case study. Alternatively *AL* suggested contacting IMCA's members from West Africa for providing case studies. *MN/GE* to action.

**MN** and **GE** pledged to have a detailed running order with speaker names for the next meeting in two weeks on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February. **MN** committed to contact Marine Solutions and enquire whether they would be interested in hosting a site visit along with Unique for IMCA members on day 2.

#### 6 Summary of action items

Action	Responsible	Target
Set up induction with DY	MN/GE	13 <sup>th</sup> /02/2024
Register for event	ALL	7 <sup>th</sup> /02/2024
Check event has been shared by SAOGA	MN/GE	5 <sup>th</sup> /02/2024
Ask SAOGA to advise on panel discussion theme and provide panellists	MN/GE	2 <sup>nd</sup> /02/2024
Confirm presentation/ case study from Fugro (ask if they have any female speakers)	MN	2 <sup>nd</sup> /02/2024
Reach out to West African companies registered to attend to request case study	MN	2 <sup>nd</sup> /02/2024
Provide finalised running order with speaker names	MN/GE	13 <sup>th</sup> /02/2024
Enquire whether Marine Solutions would want to do a site visit	MN	2 <sup>nd</sup> /02/2024

#### 7 Date and location of next meetings

13th February 2024 at 11:00 GMT

Cinthya Lopes Cinthya Lopes (Feb 8, 2024 07:12 GMT+1)	Cinthya Lopes	08/02/2024
Signed as a true record	Name	Date

# 30 January 2024- Europe and Africa Regional Meeting Minutes

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