

**Minutes** of a meeting of the Association’s MASS Committee held on 10 July 2024 from 14:30 via videoconference

**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 apologies for absence and Minutes of the previous meeting**

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

Name	Company	Committee Meeting Attendance	
		Feb 2024	July 2024
Eric Primeau	BP / IOG,	☑ Attended	☑ Attended
Dan Stoye	BP	☑ Attended	✉ Apologies
Graeme Russell	TechnipFMC	☑ Attended	☑ Attended
Lucas Marino	Petrobras	Absent	Absent
Torsten Marten	UTEC	☑ Attended	☑ Attended
Raimund Bjordal	Equinor	☑ Attended	Absent
Nicolas Chasiotis	Allseas	☑ Attended	☑ Attended
Gary Sanders	Ocean Infinity	S Substitute	Absent
Sofia Lundmark	Ocean Infinity	☑ Attended	☑ Attended
Shepard Smith	XOcean	☑ Attended	☑ Attended
Kristian Breidfjord	Reach Subsea	☑ Attended	Absent

Legend: ☑ Attended ☑ Part-Time S Substitute ✉ Apologies Absent N/A

**IMCA Secretariat Attendance:**

Richard Purser  
Jennifer Evans  
Dustin Varnell

**2.1 Approval of the minutes**

The minutes from the meeting held on the 20th February were agreed and will be duly signed as an accurate record by the Chair.

**2.2 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.

### 3 Committee Chair

Eric Primeau has announced that he will be stepping down as Committee Chair. Eric has been Chair since the conception of the MASS Committee and has driven it forward positively over the last three years.

In order to establish a new Committee Chair for the forthcoming meeting, expressions of interest are currently being solicited.

### 4 Update from IMO

#### 4.1 Overview

Margaret Fitzgerald gave an update to the Committee of the Outcomes of the 108<sup>th</sup> session of IMO's Maritime Safety Committee - development of a goal-based instrument for maritime autonomous surface ships (MASS)

Key proposals included an oversight mechanism for MASS, introduced by Belgium, Liberia, and the Republic of Korea, and the establishment of Remote Operation Management (ROM) certification provisions.

IACS highlighted the need for standardized MASS terminology.

IMarEST and ITF emphasised addressing the human element, while France and Spain stressed the inclusion of COLREGs provisions for remote operators. Additionally, France proposed considerations for the STCW Convention and cybersecurity, and Germany and Norway called for clear definitions of new terminologies.

The session also covered emergency response requirements by IMRF, cybersecurity recommendations, and the development of international standards by ISO.

- Finalisation and adoption of the non-mandatory MASS Code is planned for 2028 followed by an experience-building phase; and
- It will not be possible to achieve the 2026 adoption deadline for a mandatory Code. Therefore, the earliest possible entry into force would be on 1 January 2032

#### 4.2 Engagement with Regulators

Shep and Sofia updated the Committee with regards their attendance on behalf of IMCA at the IMO – Republic of Korea MASS Symposium held on the 14<sup>th</sup> May at the IMO HQ London.

#### 4.3 Flag States

Following on from the meetings held with the Danish and US Flag States, the Committee will seek to secure a meeting with the Marshall Islands who are leading the MASS Code development at IMO.

**Action: IMCA**

The Chair stressed the importance of having the connection to IMO in order to help the members understand the complexities of goal based regulation development along with the opportunity to help shape regulation to serve the Offshore Industry.

## 5 Any other business

### 5.1 SAR

The conversation relating to Search And Rescue was discussed in continuation of the previous meeting. The questions posed in Section 6 of the previous minutes have not been addressed these will require the committee to respond.

**Action: Committee**

### 5.2 Recording of Committee Meetings

The question was posed as to whether IMCA should record the Committee meetings using Teams and Trust Pilot, and what are the implications of using AI to extract data from these meetings. IMCA will investigate this matter internally and provide a report back.

**Action: IMCA**

### 5.3 Regulatory Navigation

The Committee is of the opinion that it is necessary to develop some form of guidance to assist members in navigating the diverse global regulations and obtaining the necessary approval to operate their assets.

**Action: IMCA/Committee**

### 5.4 IMCA Global

The opportunity for a face to face Committee meeting at IMCA Global in December was discussed but declined.

## 6 Summary of action items

Action	Responsible	Target
4.3 Arrange meeting with Marshall Islands Flag	IMCA	
5.1 Address the 6 questions posed in the previous meeting	Committee	
5.2 Investigate recording of Committee meetings	IMCA	
5.3 Develop T&C's for a possible workgroup	IMCA/Committee	

## 7 Date and location of next meetings

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Signed as a true record

Name

Date