About the MKC Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB)

The aim of the MKC Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB) is to provide a digest of news and publications focusing on key subjects and themes related to the work of IMO. Each CAB issue presents headlines from the previous month. For copyright reasons, the Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB) contains brief excerpts only. Links to the complete articles or abstracts on publishers’ sites are included, although access may require payment or subscription.

The MKC Current Awareness Bulletin is disseminated monthly and issues from the current and the past years are free to download from this page.

Email us if you would like to receive email notification when the most recent Current Awareness Bulletin is available to be downloaded.

The Current Awareness Bulletin (CAB) is published by the Maritime Knowledge Centre and is not an official IMO publication. Inclusion does not imply any endorsement by IMO.

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IMO NEWS & EVENTS

WHAT'S NEW

Mr. Arsenio Dominguez (Panama) elected as IMO Secretary-General

Mr. Arsenio Antonio Dominguez Velasco (Republic of Panama) has been elected as the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), with effect from 1 January 2024, for an initial term of four years.

The IMO Council voted to appoint Mr. Dominguez during its 129th session (C 129), which is meeting from 17 to 21 July 2023. More...

World Maritime Theme 2024: "Navigating the future: safety first!"

"Navigating the future: safety first!" has been selected for the International Maritime Organization's 2024 World Maritime Theme, which will culminate in the celebration of World Maritime Day on 26 September 2024.

The theme reflects IMO's work to enhance maritime safety and security, in tandem with the protection of the marine environment, whilst ensuring its regulatory development process safely anticipates the fast pace of technological change and innovation. More...

Bravery Award for United States Coast Guard helicopter rescuer

Caleb Halle, Aviation Survival Technician Second Class of the United States Coast Guard (USCG), based at the Coast Guard Air Station Atlantic City, is to receive the 2023 IMO Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea, for his outstanding courage, endurance and determination shown during the rescue of the seven-strong crew of the tugboat Legacy in January 2023.

Four individuals or sets of nominees will receive certificates of commendation for their acts of bravery. A further 13 will receive letters of commendation. More...

Anneliese Jost to receive IMO International Maritime Prize

Anneliese Jost has been selected as the recipient of the prestigious International Maritime Prize for 2022. The decision was made by the IMO Council at its 129th session (17-21 July). Anneliese Jost was nominated for the award by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

In its statement supporting her nomination for the prize, Germany cited Ms Jost's "crucial contribution towards achieving the objectives of IMO, in particular in the area of maritime safety." She is described as having a "calm but firm way of communicating and ability to convince others". More...
MEETING SUMMARIES AND SCHEDULE

Previous Meetings

IMO Council (C 129) 17-21 July 2023

Sub-Committee on Implementation of IMO Instruments (III 9) 31 July – 4 August 2023

Forthcoming Meetings

Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC 9) 20-29 September 2023

Consultative Meetings of Contracting Parties (London Convention 1972 (LC 45)) and Meetings of Contracting Parties (London Protocol 1996 (LP 18)) 2-6 October 2023

Technical Cooperation Committee (TC 73) 16-20 October 2023

Programme of Meetings for 2023


Signed in Istanbul in July 2022, the Black Sea Initiative (BSI) and the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aim to facilitate shipments of grain and fertilizers from the Russian Federation and Ukraine to world markets.


“ Humanity is in dangerous waters on climate,” UN Secretary-General António Guterres said in a video message at the start of MEPC’s latest session.


At eight billion strong, the “human family is larger than ever”, but leaders are failing in efforts to ensure a peaceful and prosperous world for all, UN Secretary-General António Guterres said in his message to mark World Population Day on Tuesday.


According to a new report by the UN Global Crisis Response Group, entitled A World of Debt, a total of 52 countries – almost 40 per cent of the developing world – are in “serious debt trouble”, Mr. Guterres said, backing calls for them to receive urgent fiscal relief.


The Pakistani education advocate – who was shot by the Taliban for her activism - was speaking exactly 10 years after her landmark ‘Malala Day’ address to youth at UN Headquarters in New York, where she called for global action against illiteracy, poverty and terrorism.


UN Secretary-General António Guterres is in the Belgian capital to participate in the second high-level dialogue between the global body and the European Union (EU), following on from a meeting last July.


Less than half of United Nations agencies have access to information policies, according to a survey by Eye on Global Transparency.


Following weeks of negotiations, the UN-brokered accord that facilitated the export of more than 30 million tonnes of Ukrainian grain to global markets via three Black Sea ports expired on 17 July.
Life below water: how far is the EU in implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goals?  


CASUALTIES

Four killed as tanker hit by two blasts two days apart in Bangladesh. Gary Dixon. *TradeWinds*. 4 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/four-killed-as-tanker-hit-by-two-blasts-two-days-apart-in-bangladesh/2-1-1479545](https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/four-killed-as-tanker-hit-by-two-blasts-two-days-apart-in-bangladesh/2-1-1479545) Four seafarers have been killed and more injured after a Bangladeshi product tanker was hit by explosions two days apart.


At least 4 other fires reported on ships operated by Grimaldi Group over past few years. Tim McNicholas. *CBS News (US)*. 6 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.cbsnews.com/newyork/news/grimaldi-group-ship-fires-newark/](https://www.cbsnews.com/newyork/news/grimaldi-group-ship-fires-newark/) CBS New York has learned of a least four other fires over the past few years on ships operated by the Grimaldi Group, the company that operates the ship that caught fire around 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, leading to the deaths of two Newark firefighters.


One killed in cargo ship fire in Netherlands - with electric car suspected as the cause. Samuel Osborne. Sky News. 26 July 2023. Available from: https://news.sky.com/story/one-dead-and-several-injured-after-major-fire-on-cargo-ship-near-ameland-in-netherlands-12927537 The ship had around 3,000 cars on board, according to Dutch broadcaster NOS, and the fire is suspected to have started in one of the 25 electric cars on board, the news service added, citing a spokesperson for the coast guard.

Car transport ship fire could ‘burn for days’ off Netherlands. France 24. 26 July 2023. Available from: https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20230726-deadly-fire-burning-on-car-transport-ship-off-netherlands-1 The blaze raging aboard a ship carrying 3,000 cars off the Netherlands could burn for days, officials said Wednesday, as fears built that the fire could damage to a fragile nearby island chain.

One crew dead and several wounded in K Line car carrier blaze off Dutch coast. Lloyd’s List. 26 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146026/ One crew member died and several others were wounded after a fire broke out aboard the K Line operated pure car and truck carrier Fremantle Highway (IMO: 9667344) off the Dutch coast on Tuesday night.


Coastguard attempts to tow K Line’s car carrier as fire battle continues. Carol Yang. Lloyd’s List. 27 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146041/ Netherlands coastguard has secured a line to the K Line-operated vehicle carrier Fremantle Highway (IMO: 9667344), on which a fire broke out off the Dutch coast on the night of July 25, according to the latest casualty report from Lloyd’s List Intelligence.

A Brief Look Back at Recent Car Carrier Fires. Mike Schuler. GCaptain. 27 July 2023. Available from: https://gcaptain.com/a-brief-look-back-at-recent-car-carrier-fires/ The fire on the car carrier Fremantle Highway in the North Sea is just the latest in a long and ever-growing list of fires involving vehicles on roll-on/roll-off (RoRo) vessels.
**Fremantle Highway blaze: Desperate crew jumped overboard to escape car carrier inferno.**

**Fierce winds caused panic on ferry that capsized in Philippines, killing at least 26.** Jim Gomez. *Associated Press*. 28 July 2023. Available from: [https://apnews.com/article/philippines-rajal-boat-overturns-typhoon-doksuri-77151f2697bbda3e60ac12de9a17c25](https://apnews.com/article/philippines-rajal-boat-overturns-typhoon-doksuri-77151f2697bbda3e60ac12de9a17c25) A small Philippine ferry turned upside down when passengers suddenly crowded to one side in panic as fierce winds pummelled the wooden vessel, leaving at least 26 people dead while 40 others were rescued, officials said Friday.

**ENVIRONMENT**


**Momentum gathers for new moratorium on deep sea mining ahead of key UN meeting.** Rebecca Gualandi. *Carbon Pulse*. 7 July 2023. Available from: [https://carbon-pulse.com/211139/](https://carbon-pulse.com/211139/) Green groups, several countries, and scientist coalitions are urging for another memorandum on deep sea mining, days ahead of a decision on whether to start the exploitation of the ocean depths for critical raw materials and minerals is due to be taken at a UN meeting.


**Deep-sea mining: A new gold rush or environmental disaster?** Al Jazeera. 10 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/7/10/deep-sea-mining-a-new-gold-rush-or-environmental-disaster](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/7/10/deep-sea-mining-a-new-gold-rush-or-environmental-disaster) In the depths of the Pacific Ocean between Mexico and Hawaii, trillions of potato-shaped rocks scattered across the seabed contain minerals such as nickel, cobalt and manganese that are vital for green technologies in the global energy transition.

**Should we use geoengineering to tinker with the planet?** Marco Magrini. *Geographical*. 11 July 2023. Available from: [https://geographical.co.uk/climate-change/should-we-use-geoengineering-to-tinker-with-the-planet](https://geographical.co.uk/climate-change/should-we-use-geoengineering-to-tinker-with-the-planet) Some experts believe that, someday, we’ll have to resort to tinkering with the planet’s climate.


Commercial mining of the sea floor could soon get the green light.


Whales euthanised after becoming re-stranded at Cheynes Beach, despite painstaking attempts to save them. Cason Ho, Samantha Goerling, Daniel Mercer and Lauren Smith. ABC (Australia). 26 July 2023. Available from: https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-07-26/cheynes-beach-pilot-whales-stranded-rescue-effort-resumes/102648678. Veterinarians have euthanised pilot whales that re-stranded on a beach in southern Western Australia, despite painstaking attempts to herd them out to deeper water.


July 2023 is set to be the hottest month on record. World Meteorological Organization (WMO). 27 July 2023. Available from: https://public.wmo.int/en/media/press-release/july-2023-set-be-hottest-month-record. According to ERA5 data from the EU-funded Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S), the first three weeks of July have been the warmest three-week period on record and the month is on track to be the hottest July and the hottest month on record.
**ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION**


**Facts are up against fear ahead of Fukushima water release.** Shaimaa Khalili. *BBC News*. 13 July 2023. Available from: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-66173431 In a white coat and gloves, Ai Kimura is cutting up a fish sample at the Tarachine lab, about an hour’s drive from the now-crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant on Japan’s eastern coast.

**Large Oil Spill Reported Near Site of Pemex Platform Blast in Gulf of Mexico.** Amy Stillman. *Bloomberg*. 18 July 2023. Available from: https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/large-oil-spill-reported-near-site-of-pemex-platform-blast-in-gulf-of-mexico-1.1947372 Petroleos Mexicanos is responding to an oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico near the site of a deadly explosion at one of the state-owned company’s natural gas platforms.

**Environment advocate group says Mindoro oil spill is far from over.** Manila Times. 20 July 2023. Available from: https://www.manilatimes.net/2023/07/20/regions/environment-advocate-group-says-mindoro-oil-spill-is-far-from-over/1901437 PROTECT VIP, a coalition of communities, sectors, and environmentalists advocating for the protection of the Verde Island Passage (VIP), said that the first environmental crisis under the administration of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. is far from over.


**Oil spills: Seychelles takes part in Western Indian Ocean Pollution Regional Exercise.** Salifa Karapetyan. *Seychelles News Agency*. 26 July 2023. Available from: http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/19041/ With the aim of further strengthening regional response to pollution incidents at sea, a three-day tabletop exercise is being organised in Seychelles for the western Indian Ocean, putting to test an existing regional contingency plan.

**Cargo ship leaks bunker oil in Nanaimo Harbour.** Darron Kloster. *Times Colonist (Canada)*. 26 July 2023. Available from: https://www.timescolonist.com/local-news/cargo-ship-leaks-bunker-oil-in-nanaimo-harbour-7328772 Crew aboard a 180-metre cargo ship reported the bunker oil spill at about 6:30 a.m. on Wednesday while the ship was in dock at the Nanaimo cruise-ship terminal.

**Japan’s ocean discharge plan reveals selfishness, arrogance.** People’s Daily Online (China). 27 July 2023. Available from: http://en.people.cn/n3/2023/0727/c90000-20050044.html Once the nuclear-contaminated water is discharged, the radionuclides it carries will be diffused into every corner of the sea.
**HEALTH & SAFETY**


**IMO**

**IMO makes little headway on the building blocks towards an equitable and climate aligned GHG strategy.** *University Maritime Advisory Services (UMAS).* 30 June 2023. Available from: [https://www.u-mas.co.uk/imo-makes-little-headway-on-the-building-blocks-towards-an-equitable-and-climate-aligned-ghg-strategy](https://www.u-mas.co.uk/imo-makes-little-headway-on-the-building-blocks-towards-an-equitable-and-climate-aligned-ghg-strategy) Latest intersessional meeting heads in a direction that is not 1.5-aligned, and with back-sliding on just and equitable transition. [Overview of ISWG-GHG 15](https://www.nu.se/maritime/strategies/overview-of-iswg-ghg-15)

**'Precious years will be wasted': Concerns mount after IMO draft undershoots Paris Agreement goals.** Eric Priante Martin. *TradeWinds.* 30 June 2023. Available from: [https://www.tradewindsnews.com/esg/-precious-years-will-be-wasted-concerns-mount-after-imo-draft-undershoots-paris-agreement-goals/2-1-1478552](https://www.tradewindsnews.com/esg/-precious-years-will-be-wasted-concerns-mount-after-imo-draft-undershoots-paris-agreement-goals/2-1-1478552) As the IMO’s MEPC 80 meeting opens in London, there are concerns over whether an effective agreement can be reached.

**Decision-time for global shipping industry grappling with its decarbonization plans.** *WWF.* 30 June 2023. Available from: [https://www.wwf.panda.org/discover/our_focus/climate_and_energy_practice/?9167966/shipping-net-zero-decisions](https://www.wwf.panda.org/discover/our_focus/climate_and_energy_practice/?9167966/shipping-net-zero-decisions) In the words of UN Secretary General, António Guterres: “The IMO has a historic opportunity to adopt a revised strategy… that clearly states: the future is zero-emission shipping by 2050 across the board - without leaving any country or trading route behind.”

**Agreement on long-term climate targets for shipping hovers in the dark.** Tomas Kristiansen. *ShippingWatch.* 30 June 2023. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article16222772.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article16222772.ece) After a week of meetings at the UN’s maritime organization IMO, the participating countries have failed to agree on the cut-off point for a long-term climate agreement for international shipping.


**The IMO must show leadership on carbon emissions or face irrelevance.** *Lloyd’s List.* 30 June 2023. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145694/](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145694/) If China gets its way, fragmented regionalism will replace the United Nations specialist agency as the rule maker.

Pacific nations advocate to steer shipping industry on clear path to climate action. Kelvin Anthony. Radio New Zealand. 1 July 2023. Available from: https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/492987/ With less than two days before the IMO meets for its most significant meeting, member states are already showing signs of a major divide on the level of ambition needed to align the shipping industry with the Paris Agreement goal of keeping global warming below 1.5 degrees.


Who’s making the decisions at MEPC? Gavin Lipsith. Fathom.World. 2 July 2023. Available from: https://fathom.world/whos-making-the-decisions-at-mepc/ More than 20% of member state delegates at the last Marine Environmental Protection Committee meeting represented external interests including fossil fuel companies and environmental lobby groups.


Nations Haggle Over Targets to Cut Shipping’s Huge Emissions. Jack Wittels. Bloomberg. 3 July 2023. Available from: https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/nations-haggle-over-targets-to-cut-shipping-s-huge-emissions-1.1941048 In a grey, squat building overlooking the Thames River in London, high-level talks began Monday on how to clean up an industry that carries more than 80% of world trade — and spews more carbon dioxide into the Earth’s atmosphere each year than Germany.


MEPC80: IMO Must Pick Low Hanging Fruit by Cutting Black Carbon Emissions. Clean Arctic Alliance. 3 July 2023. Available from: https://cleanarctic.org/2023/07/03/mepc80-imo-must-pick-low-hanging-fruit-by-cutting-black-carbon-emissions/ As the IMO gathers today for a meeting of its Marine Environment Protection Committee, the Clean Arctic Alliance called on IMO member states to adopt ambitious interim targets that will lead to a 50% reduction in shipping’s climate impact by 2030, commit to delivering mandatory black carbon emissions reductions from shipping – which impact the Arctic, and to support designation of new Emission Control Areas to reduce air pollution in the Arctic.

Crucial climate change meeting at IMO opens with wide division about how to decarbonise shipping. Michelle Wiese Bockmann. Lloyd’s List. 3 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145722/ Large parts of a draft text to revise and strengthen climate change targets have been watered down or left undecided as the IMO began a crucial meeting to sign off on a greenhouse gas emission strategy.


Analysis: Only now will the IMO start the difficult discussion of a CO2 agreement. Tomas Kristiansen. ShippingWatch. 4 July 2023. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article16249474.ece From Tuesday and up until Friday, the most important climate legislation – probably ever – for global shipping will be drafted in London.


Pacific proposal: shipping faces showdown over greenhouse gases. ABC (Australia). 4 July 2023. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZTR6R2eL8g A proposal by Pacific Islands nations to tackle climate emissions from the shipping industry is being discussed at a meeting by the UN shipping regulatory group in London this week.

Developing countries pushing back on GHG levy at IMO. Enes Tunagur. Lloyd’s List. 4 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145740 Countries including China, Saudi Arabia, Brazil and Paraguay among others, voiced concerns around a universal GHG levy, suggesting it will be detrimental to their economies, with some delegations calling it a “shock measure” that would slow down economies that rely on shipping because of their remoteness to main trade routes.

Environmental groups say IMO talks ‘already failing’ as climate change targets fall short. Michelle Wiese Bockmann. Lloyd’s List. 4 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145747/ A working group deciding make-or-break greenhouse gas emissions targets for shipping began meeting at the IMO on Tuesday, as environmental lobby groups criticised members for their self-interest and failing at their jobs.

Pacific nations worried over ‘disinformation’ on carbon levy plan. Kelvin Anthony. Radio New Zealand. 5 July 2023. Available from: https://www.nz.co.nz/news/pacific/493199/pacific-nations-worried-over-disinformation-on-carbon-levy-plan Pacific island nations have sounded the alarm on a possible “disinformation” campaign peddled by a “couple of countries” about their proposal to introduce a carbon levy, as the clock ticks down for IMO to finalise and adopt a strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emission from ships.

Watered-down final text from MEPC on the cards. Sam Chambers. Splash 247.com. 5 July 2023. Available from: https://splash247.com/watered-down-final-text-from-mepc-on-the-cards/ Midway through this week’s crucial MEPC gathering and there is now a very real risk of member states of the IMO failing to deliver clear goals and economic measures to decarbonise shipping.

From well to wake: How fuels’ lifecycle emissions are key to IMO greenhouse gas debate. Eric Priante Martin. Trade Winds. 5 July 2023. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/esg/from-well-to-wake-how-fuels-lifecycle-emissions-are-key-to-imo-greenhouse-gas-debate/2-1-1479487 Putting a price on greenhouse gas emissions — or “the carbon tax” as the general press tends to dub it — has a way of bursting its way into conversations about this week’s key meeting at the International Maritime Organization.

The wrong side of history: Shaama Sandooyea's address to MEPC 80. *Clean Shipping Coalition (CSC)*. 5 July 2023. Available from: [https://cleanshipping.org/news/the-wrong-side-of-history-shaama-sandooyeas-address-to-mepc-80/](https://cleanshipping.org/news/the-wrong-side-of-history-shaama-sandooyeas-address-to-mepc-80/) The following years until 2030 are decisive for the climate, for the people, and for the future of the planet, and we do not have the time or the privilege to agree on a grey area.


Korean shipping companies face stricter carbon emissions regulations. *Pulse (South Korea)*. 7 July 2023. Available from: [https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?sc=30800018&year=2023&no=516115](https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?sc=30800018&year=2023&no=516115) South Korean shipping companies, which have been at the forefront of international trade, are facing stricter carbon emissions regulations than expected.


UN agrees on a new climate plan for global shipping, but not 1.5°C aligned. Clean Shipping Coalition (CSC). 7 July 2023. Available from: [https://cleanshipping.org/news/un-agrees-on-a-new-climate-plan-for-global-shipping-but-not-1-5c-aligned/](https://cleanshipping.org/news/un-agrees-on-a-new-climate-plan-for-global-shipping-but-not-1-5c-aligned/) Civil society groups are deeply concerned by the UN’s International Maritime Organization (IMO) failure to firmly align global shipping with the Paris Agreement’s 1.5°C temperature-warming limit, at the 80th Marine Environment Protection Committee meeting (MEPC 80) this week.


IMO forges ‘wish and a prayer’ carbon deal as greens bemoan checkpoint targets. Eric Priante Martin. Trade Winds. 7 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.tradewindsnews.com/esg/imo-forges-wish-and-a-prayer-carbon-deal-as-greens-bemoan-checkpoint-targets/](https://www.tradewindsnews.com/esg/imo-forges-wish-and-a-prayer-carbon-deal-as-greens-bemoan-checkpoint-targets/2-1-1482553) The International Maritime Organization has agreed to new greenhouse gas targets that, while more ambitious than its current objectives, fall short of calls to align with the goals of the Paris Agreement to keep global temperature rises below 1.5C.
IMO’s revised GHG strategy sparks mixed reactions. Enes Tunagur. Lloyd’s List. 7 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145817/ The revision of the International Maritime Organization’s greenhouse gas strategy triggered an immediate deluge of statements broadly divided by industry officials welcoming an “historic compromise” and environmental lobby groups lamenting the “lack of ambition”.

What happens next — shipping’s decarbonisation strategy explained. Enes Tunagur. Lloyd’s List. 7 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145821/ The shipping industry now has the regulatory clarity to start investing in decarbonisation technologies, as the International Maritime Organization has revised its greenhouse gas strategy to reach net-zero emissions by 2050, despite the lack of total alignment with 1.5°C.

The World May Have Just Missed Its Chance To Seriously Tackle Shipping Emissions. Alejandro de la Garza. Time. 7 July 2023. Available from: https://time.com/6292927/ The United Nations has long been a powerful force in the fight against climate change. The IMO has been another story.

Shipping industry ‘missed the boat’ on 1.5°C pathway, as UN maritime meeting delivers insufficient commitments to cut greenhouse gases. WWF. 7 July 2023. Available from: https://wwf.panda.org/discover/our_focus/climate_and_energy_practice/?9272466/ WWF calls on shipping companies to take voluntary actions to align their activities with limiting global warming to below 1.5°C, writes Robin Harvey.


Shipping emissions levy delayed but goals for greenhouse gas cuts agreed. Fiona Harvey. The Guardian. 7 July 2023. Available from: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/jul/07/shipping-emissions-levy-delayed-but-goals-for-greenhouse-gas-cuts-agreed Attempts to impose a levy on greenhouse gas emissions from international shipping, in order to fund climate action, have been delayed but not extinguished at the conclusion of talks among 175 governments.


Shipping Regulator Falls Short of 1.5C-Aligned Climate Targets. Jack Wittels. Bloomberg. 7 July 2023. Available from: https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/shipping-regulator-falls-short-of-1-5c-aligned-climate-targets-1.1942752 Shipping’s international regulator set non-binding emissions goals that fail to align with restricting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, according to industry experts.
IMO's newly revised GHG strategy: What it means for shipping and the Paris Agreement. Bryan Comer and Francielle Carvalho. *International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT).* 7 July 2023. Available from: [https://theicct.org/marine-imo-updated-ghg-strategy-jul23/](https://theicct.org/marine-imo-updated-ghg-strategy-jul23/) In the first scheduled revision of the IMO’s greenhouse gas (GHG) strategy, member states just agreed to (1) reach net-zero GHG emissions by or around 2050 and (2) “indicative checkpoints” that call for reducing total GHG emissions by 20% and striving for 30% by 2030 and 70% and striving for 80% by 2040, both relative to 2008.

The 2023 IMO GHG strategy sends an unequivocal signal to investors that ships being ordered today, and many already built, have to be capable of running on zero emission fuels. *University Maritime Advisory Services (UMAS).* 7 July 2023. Available from: [https://tinyurl.com/au9k7d3a](https://tinyurl.com/au9k7d3a) With a combination of further IMO action, national, regional and industry action, a 1.5-aligned GHG reduction pathway is more clearly in reach than before. An overview of the discussions from IMO MEPC 80 and Frequently Asked Questions.

Shipping’s climate compromise keeps 1.5°C alive, for now. *Lloyd’s List.* 7 July 2023. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145823/](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145823/) The IMO has achieved this week what many thought politically impossible — a credible, if unfinished pathway to decarbonising shipping.

International shipping regulator fails to align with 1.5°C Paris Agreement temperature goal. *Opportunity Green.* 7 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.opportunitygreen.org/press-release-imo-fails-to-align-with-paris-agreement-goal](https://www.opportunitygreen.org/press-release-imo-fails-to-align-with-paris-agreement-goal) This week’s 80th Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 80) marked a critical moment for determining whether the shipping industry is able to keep the Paris Agreement goal of 1.5°C alive and secure a just and equitable transition for the world’s most vulnerable countries.


UN shipping agency endorses plan to keep 1.5 degrees within reach after ‘relentless lobbying by Pacific’. Kelvin Anthony. *Radio New Zealand.* 8 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/493371/](https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/493371/) Pacific island countries’ “relentless” efforts at the UN’s specialist agency on shipping, IMO, has resulted in the adoption of a new emissions reductions strategy to ensure the Paris Agreement goal remains within reach.

Decarbonisation, Policy, Seafarers, Ship recycling, Training, UNCLOS. Craig Eason. *Fathom.World.* 8 July 2023. Available from: [https://fathom.world/aronnax-july-7th-from-the-imo-the-day-history-was-made/](https://fathom.world/aronnax-july-7th-from-the-imo-the-day-history-was-made/) Depending on who you speak to you will hear about the things that are wrong with the new strategy and goals. But you also hear about what they think is right.

At the behest of China, Saudi Arabia (whose deserts will shortly be uninhabitable) and Brazil (whose rainforests are shrinking swiftly), targets were neutered to the point of becoming mere “indicative checkpoints” – whatever that means.


Global shipping industry makes landmark pledge to reach net zero by 2050. *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)*. 10 July 2023. Available from: https://climatechampions.unfccc.int/global-shipping-industry-makes-landmark-pledge-to-reach-net-zero-by-2050/ Last week, on the banks of London’s River Thames, a landmark decision was adopted by member states of the UN’s specialized agency, the IMO, that sends the clearest signal yet that the shipping industry is committed to achieving net zero by 2050.

Tanker company hoped for a climate deal with stronger wording. Idha Toft Valeur. *ShippingWatch*. 10 July 2023. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article16279827.ece Chemical tanker operator Odfjell is generally positive about the revised climate strategy but wished the wording around the improved targets didn’t leave so much up to interpretation.

Countries call for IMO to open up to the public. Michelle Wiese Bockmann. *Lloyd’s List*. 10 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145843 A group of 21 countries have called for most meetings at the IMO to be broadcast online to the general public to boost transparency and accountability at the London-based UN agency.

Spot the hypocrisy: Europe and the West throws Pacific high ambition under the bus at IMO. Peter Nuttall. *Radio New Zealand*. 11 July 2023. Available from: https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/493530/ Opinion - Getting serious push-back to the Pacific’s high ambition from China, Brazil and their buddies was fully expected this week at IMO.


The UN just set a net-zero goal for shipping. Here's how that could work. Casey Crownhart. MIT Technology Review. 11 July 2023. Available from: https://www.technologyreview.com/2023/07/11/1076080/ A UN group called the International Maritime Organization (IMO) agreed on July 7 to set a goal of net-zero greenhouse-gas emissions for global shipping "by or around 2050."

IMO’s decarbonisation strategy is vague, but move to net-zero is already underway. David Hughes. Business Times (Singapore). 11 July 2023. Available from: https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/opinion-features/imos-decarbonisation-strategy-vague-move-net-zero-already-underway Last week, as expected, the UN agency that regulates global shipping agreed to a revised strategy to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from international shipping.

Søren Meyer disappointed after climate agreement: “I expected more”. Astrid Sturlason. ShippingWatch. 11 July 2023. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article16283138.ece Søren Meyer, CEO of Zeronorth, posits that the new climate agreement for the shipping industry is not enough to get the entire industry on track with the green transition.


Global shipping regulator underwhelms with new emissions targets. Alexander Kozul-Wright. Al Jazeera. 11 July 2023. Available from: https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2023/7/11/global-shipping-regulator-underwhelms-with-new-emissions At its marine environment protection committee meeting last week, the IMO agreed to new shipping emissions targets to keep global temperature rises below 1.5°C (2.8°F) by mid-century, in line with the 2015 Paris Agreement.

Greek and Cypriot shipping bodies give thumbs up to IMO decarbonisation strategy. Nigel Lowry. Lloyd’s List. 11 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145862/ Leading Greek and Cypriot bodies, representing well over half the European-owned merchant fleet, have hailed the past week's commitment by the IMO to achieve net-zero emissions by "around" 2050.


UCL's Tristan Smith: Carbon resolution ‘a massive change’ but leaves more tests ahead for IMO. Eric Priante Martin. TradeWinds. 12 July 2023. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/regulation/ucl-s-tristan-smith-carbon-resolution-a-massive-change-but-leaves-more-tests-ahead-for-imo/2-1-1482574 While the IMO's historic resolution on shipping's greenhouse emissions left some disappointed, the decision did make progress in moving the industry closer to the goals of the Paris Agreement on climate change.

Researchers: New skills are needed at IMO to reach climate goals. Tomas Kristiansen. ShippingWatch. 13 July 2023. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article16287045.ece Meeting participants with more than technical knowledge are needed if the IMO is to adopt a tax on fossil fuels.
On 7 July 2023, after two weeks of intense negotiations, the member states of the IMO unanimously adopted the 2023 IMO Greenhouse Gas Strategy.


Arsenio Dominguez becomes the new Secretary-General of IMO. Niklas Krigslund. ShippingWatch. 18 July 2023. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/regulation/article16296560.ece Panama’s candidate has been elected as the new Secretary-General of the UN’s International Maritime Organization, which is responsible for regulating shipping globally.


Arsenio Dominguez wins vote to become next IMO secretary-general. Michelle Wiese Bockmann. Lloyd’s List. 18 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145944/Arsenio-Dominguez-wins-vote-to-become-next-IMO-secretary-general Arsenio Dominguez, the candidate from Panama, has been elected as secretary-general of the International Maritime Organization after voting today went to a fourth round.


Iran loses bid to host shipping event after vote at UN agency meeting. Jonathan Saul. *Reuters*. 20 July 2023. Available from: https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/iran-loses-bid-host-shipping-event-after-vote-un-agency-meeting-2023-07-20/ Iran’s offer to host a maritime event in October has been rejected after a proposal led by the U.S. to rescind the bid was approved in a vote at the UN shipping agency’s Council, an agency spokesperson said on Thursday.

Will Arsenio Dominguez be the ‘disruptor’ that the IMO needs? Michelle Wiese Bockmann and Enes Tunagur. *Lloyd’s List*. 21 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145986 The IMO is fighting to retain a credible role as the world’s shipping regulator, amid monumental challenges to reduce emissions and catch up with other industries in areas such as digitalisation and inclusiveness.


Global shipping has a new climate strategy – it’s vague, obscure and almost noncommittal, but it may be pointing the industry in the right direction. Don Maier. *The Conversation*. 24 July 2023. Available from: https://tinyurl.com/4p8juk46 The world’s largest shipping companies are starting to update their fleets for a greener future.

Key roles for Singapore at IMO but difficult times ahead. David Hughes. *Business Times (Singapore)*. 25 July 2023. Available from: https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/opinion-features/columns/key-roles-singapore-imo-difficult-times-ahead Good news should have dominated the agenda of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) last week as the London-based UN agency voted in a new secretary-general against the background of a landmark agreement to move more quickly towards decarbonisation the previous week.
**LAW & POLICY**

Russia's top diplomat Lavrov sees no reason to extend Black Sea grain deal.  
Guy Faulconbridge. *Reuters*. 30 June 2023. Available from: [https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russias-top-diplomat-lavrov-sees-no-reason-extend-grain-deal-2023-06-30/](https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russias-top-diplomat-lavrov-sees-no-reason-extend-grain-deal-2023-06-30/) Russia said on Friday it saw no reason to extend the Black Sea grain deal beyond July 17 because the West had acted in such an “outrageous” way over the agreement, but assured poor countries that Russian grain exports would continue.

These people face 20 years in jail for saving others from drowning in the Mediterranean.  

Shipping interests are pushing back on a proposal to save endangered Gulf whales.  
Steve Newborn. *WUSF Public Media (US)*. 1 July 2023. Available from: [https://wusfnews.wusf.usf.edu/environment/2023-07-01/shipping-interests-are-giving-blowback-on-moves-to-save-endangered-gulf-whales](https://wusfnews.wusf.usf.edu/environment/2023-07-01/shipping-interests-are-giving-blowback-on-moves-to-save-endangered-gulf-whales) A move to restrict the movement of vessels in the Gulf of Mexico to protect endangered whales is encountering resistance, as representatives of Florida’s ports say it could hurt the state’s economy.

GhBC National Coordinator engages in talks with DOALOS on best practices.  

Tighter limit on industrial, power and aviation emissions, as UK leads the way to net zero.  

IAEA Finds Japan’s Plans to Release Treated Water into the Sea at Fukushima Consistent with International Safety Standards.  

EU, PH eye stronger maritime cooperation in South China Sea; Japan explores security partnership with PH.  
Russia dismisses ‘Western propaganda’ aimed at saving Black Sea grain deal.
Harry Papachristou. TradeWinds. 5 July 2023. Available from:
The Russian government has brushed aside reports that the European Union is considering easing some financial sanctions against Moscow that would help save the Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI) and reiterated that the United Nations-led initiative is set to expire on 17 July.

The government of Indonesia is making plans to create a new coast guard agency to take on and augment the capabilities of its existing Maritime Security Agency (Baklama).

Clipper Shipping A.S. has been convicted of violating the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships.

Iran’s Revolutionary Guards seized a tanker holding 900 metric tons of “smuggled fuel” and 12 crew members based on a court order, a report by the semi-official Fars news agency said on Friday.

Two ships laden with Ukrainian grain are to set sail from Odesa on Monday and it looks like they will be the last to do so under a United Nations-led scheme for the seaborne export of Ukrainian grain.

Established to spearhead the implementation of the Ocean Decade in Africa, the African Ocean Decade Taskforce organized an online information webinar on 2 June 2023.

The head of the UN’s nuclear watchdog has told RNZ Pacific its standards are not outdated.

In June, the United Nations approved a landmark treaty to preserve ocean biodiversity, seeming to augur a transformation in how countries and corporations do business on the high seas.

**UK: Amnesty offered to migrants in order to get migration bill passed into law.** Emma Wallis. *InfoMigrants*. 11 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/50286/uk-amnesty-offered-to-migrants-in-order-to-get-migration-bill-passed-into-law](https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/50286/uk-amnesty-offered-to-migrants-in-order-to-get-migration-bill-passed-into-law) The UK government is considering to offer amnesty to migrants who have already arrived in the UK via the Channel as part of its efforts to pass the 'Illegal Migration Bill' into law, perhaps even before the summer recess.

**China’s marine economy GDP exceeds 9 trillion yuan.** *Xinhuanet (China)*. 11 July 2023. Available from: [https://english.news.cn/20230711/486efef38b7b49f38783492e2f8e6460/c.html](https://english.news.cn/20230711/486efef38b7b49f38783492e2f8e6460/c.html) The gross domestic product of China’s marine economy, which covers industries ranging from navigation and fishery to shipbuilding, exceeded 9 trillion yuan (1.25 trillion U.S. dollars) in 2022, according to the ministry of transport on Tuesday.

**China sets up new body to oversee shipping decarbonisation.** Carol Yang. *Lloyd’s List*. 11 July 2023. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.inforam.com/LL1145851/](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.inforam.com/LL1145851/) China is planning to launch a national ship energy efficiency management centre in Shanghai by 2024, amid increased pressure to decarbonise the sector.

**Which Has Better Climate Targets, Aviation Or Shipping?** Michael Barnard. *CleanTechnica*. 11 July 2023. Available from: [https://cleantechnica.com/2023/07/11/which-has-better-climate-targets-aviation-or-shipping/](https://cleantechnica.com/2023/07/11/which-has-better-climate-targets-aviation-or-shipping/) After the past three years, pretty much everyone on Earth now knows what the UN WHO (World Health Organization) is, even if some people have a very odd idea of what it does.

**Russia’s threat to pull out of Ukraine grain deal raises fears about global food security.** Courtney Bonnell. *Associated Press*. 12 July 2023. Available from: [https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-war-grain-deal-renewal-2dde8628abc51eb27d64e1475082fd52](https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-war-grain-deal-renewal-2dde8628abc51eb27d64e1475082fd52) Concerns are growing that Russia will not extend a United Nations-brokered deal that allows grain to flow from Ukraine to parts of the world struggling with hunger, with ships no longer heading to the war-torn country’s Black Sea ports and food exports dwindling.


Detention of Ocean Viking five days after EU-sponsored Libyan coastguard fires shots near humanitarian workers. Claire Juchat. SOS Mediterranee. 13 July 2023. Available from: https://en.sosmediterranee.org/news/statement-detention-of-ocean-viking-five-days-after-libyan-coastguard-shots-nearby-humanitarian-workers/ On July 11, 2023, following a Port State Control (PSC) inspection lasting 7 hours conducted by the Italian Coastguard in the port of Civitavecchia, Italy, Ocean Viking, a ship chartered by SOS MEDITERRANEE since 2019 and operated in partnership with the IFRC, was placed under detention by Italian authorities, for an indefinite period as discussions are ongoing with the relevant stakeholders.


Ukraine Grain Deal ‘De Facto’ Over – Kremlin. Moscow Times. 17 July 2023. Available from: https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2023/07/17/ukraine-grain-deal-de-facto-over-kremlin-a81861 A deal brokered by the UN and Turkey that allowed for the safe export of Ukrainian grain through the Black Sea is “de facto” over, the Kremlin said Monday.

Russia halts landmark deal that allowed Ukraine to export grain at time of growing hunger. Courtney Bonnell. Associated Press. 17 July 2023. Available from: https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-war-grain-food-security-ba7f9146b745337a1948a964cb30331c Russia on Monday halted a breakthrough wartime deal that allowed grain to flow from Ukraine to countries in Africa, the Middle East and Asia where hunger is a growing threat and high food prices have pushed more people into poverty.

Black Sea grain deal: Russia refuses to renew and says no guarantees for ships now. Caleb Davis and Mark Trevelyan. Reuters. 17 July 2023. Available from: https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russia-halts-participation-black-sea-grain-deal-kremlin-says-2023-07-17/ Russia refused on Monday to extend the agreement that has enabled Ukraine to export grain from its Black Sea ports for the past year, complaining that promises to free up its own shipments of food and fertilisers had not been kept.

Russia will immediately resume grain deal implementation as soon as its terms are met - Peskov. Interfax. 17 July 2023. Available from: https://interfax.com/newsroom/top-stories/92615/ Implementation of the Black Sea grain deal was stopped on Monday, and Russia will immediately resume it as soon as its conditions under the deal are met, Russian presidential press secretary Dmitry Peskov said.
Kremlin says Black Sea grain deal has ‘de facto ended’. France 24. 17 July 2023. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6wK3gyg2JRI. The Kremlin said Monday that the Ukraine grain deal had “de facto ended” hours before it was due to expire, and that Moscow would return to the landmark agreement if its conditions were met.


International organisations react to end of Black Sea grain deal. Reuters. 17 July 2023. Available from: https://splash247.com/ukraine-seeks-alternatives-as-black-sea-grain-initiative-folds/ Here are some comments from international organisations working in the fields of aid, international trade and food security on Russia’s decision to halt its participation in the Black Sea grain deal.


Ukraine on Black Sea Grain Initiative - General Assembly Media Stakeout. United Nations. 18 July 2023. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LmyVHJGgtSQ. Speaking to journalists outside the General Assembly, Ukraine’s Minister for Foreign Affairs said, “Yesterday, when I had a meeting with the Secretary-General, ahead of his phone conversation with President Zelenskyy, we literally discussed all possible options with him."


Workshops launched to help combat modern slavery in the maritime industry. Stella Marris. 19 July 2023. Available from: https://www.stellamaris.org.uk/workshops-launched-to-help-combat-modern-slavery-in-the-maritime-industry/ Stella Maris, a leading maritime charity dedicated to supporting seafarers and fishers worldwide, is pleased to announce the launch of a new workshop series across the UK.


Black Sea grain deal stares at bleak future. Ren Qi. China Daily. 20 July 2023. Available from: https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202307/20/WS64b86be3a31035260b817668.html Wheat and corn prices on global commodities markets have jumped after Russia announced on Monday its pull-out of a crucial deal allowing the export of grain from Ukraine.

US Department of Labor finds Maersk Line Limited retaliated against seaman who reported safety concerns to US Coast Guard. US Department of Labor. 20 July 2023. Available from: https://www.osha.gov/news/newsreleases/national/07202023 A federal whistleblower investigation has determined that Maersk Line Limited — one of the world’s leading providers of marine cargo services — suspended and terminated a seaman illegally after the seaman reported numerous safety concerns about a company vessel to the U.S. Coast Guard.


Dozens of oil & industry lobbyists attended secretive shipping emissions talks. Joe Lo. Climate Home News. 20 July 2023. Available from: https://www.climatechangenews.com/2023/07/20/imo-shipping-climate-talks-emissions-oil-fossil-fuels/ Lobbyists from oil companies such as Shell, ExxonMobil and Saudi Aramco joined government negotiators at recent secretive talks on how to cut emissions from the shipping sector, Climate Home has learned.


UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure collaborates with DNV to establish the maritime decarbonization center. Zawya. 21 July 2023. Available from: https://tinyurl.com/bdebhr2j In a groundbreaking move that solidifies the UAE’s status as a global leader in sustainability and energy transition, the UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure (MOEI) has announced the establishment of the “UAE Maritime Decarbonization Center.”

Ukraine’s head of delegation at IMO removed. Richard Clayton. Lloyd’s List. 21 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydlist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145983/ Vadym Prystaiiko, head of Ukraine’s delegation at the IMO and the country’s ambassador to the UK, has been removed from office by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, after criticising the president’s response to a row over gratitude for British military aid.
On September 11, Small Island States get their day in Court. Antigua Tribune (Antigua and Barbuda). 21 July 2023. Available from: https://antiguatribune.com/commentary-on-september-11-small-island-states-get-their-day-in-court/ In the face of unremitting climate change threats and unfulfilled promises from industrialized nations, leaders of small island states have courageously taken matters into their own hands.

Climate change: Which countries will foot the bill. Kate Abnett and Valerie Volcovici. Reuters. 21 July 2023. Available from: https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/sustainable-finance-reporting/climate-change-which-countries-will-foot-bill-2023-07-21/ As the costs of climate change rack up, a debate is surging among governments: who should pay?

Biden Selects Female Admiral to Lead Navy; She’d Be 1st Woman to Be Military Service Chief. Voice of America. 21 July 2023. Available from: https://www.voanews.com/a/biden-selects-female-admiral-to-lead-navy-she-d-be-1st-woman-to-be-military-service-chief/7191022.html President Joe Biden has chosen Adm. Lisa Franchetti to lead the Navy, a senior administration official said Friday.

Ukraine wants ships to keep exporting its grain despite Russian attacks. Some are interested. Courtney Bonnell. Associated Press. 22 July 2023. Available from: https://apnews.com/article/black-sea-grain-shipments-ukraine-russia-war-3e79b0842ca97c96e73b824d0e621722 Russia has repeatedly fired missiles and drones at Ukrainian ports key to sending grain to the world.


G20 divisions over key climate goals pile pressure on Cop28 hosts. Matteo Civillini. Climate Home News. 24 July 2023. Available from: https://www.climatechangenews.com/2023/07/24/g20-divisions-over-key-climate-goals-piles-pressure-on-cop28-hosts/ Energy ministers from some of the world’s largest economies failed to agree on phasing down fossil fuels and setting ambitious renewable energy targets at a G20 meeting in Goa, India.

If the UK lives up to what it says on shipping emissions, it could claim to be a climate leader. Jonathan Hood. Inside Track. 24 July 2023. Available from: https://greenallianceblog.org.uk/2023/07/24/if-the-uk-lives-up-to-what-it-says-on-shipping-emissions-it-could-claim-to-be-a-climate-leader/ The International Maritime Organization (IMO), the UN’s agency regulating international shipping, recently concluded crunch talks in London to agree a far reaching, global strategy to eliminate the sector’s greenhouse gas emissions.


The NATO-Ukraine Council met on Wednesday (26 July 2023) to address the serious security situation in the Black Sea region following Russia’s unilateral termination of the Black Sea Grain Initiative brokered by the United Nations and Türkiye.


Plans to begin mining the seafloor for metals that could be used in the energy transition have been pushed back to at least next year after a meeting of the UN-backed regulator in Jamaica ended without agreement on how the industry would be regulated.


The negotiations of the draft regulations on the exploitation of mineral resources in the Area (ISBA/25/C/WP.1) remained the main item on the agenda.


The Panama Maritime Authority (AMP) and the National Maritime Authority of Peru signed an Inter-institutional Agreement that seeks mutual recognition of the training and certification of seafarers, in accordance with Rule I/10 of the International Convention on Standards for Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW’78).


Nations opposed to deep sea mineral mining and those in favour of exploiting the oceans’ depths butted heads in Jamaica on Wednesday, with both sides arguing their position would help protect the planet.


On July 21, nations reached an agreement that will make it more difficult for deep-sea mining to start immediately in international waters, while not fully halting the industry’s progress.


The total number of climate change court cases has more than doubled since 2017 and is growing worldwide.


As crunch talks about the future of deep-sea mining enter the final stretch, governments have not yet been able to agree on the agenda for the meeting at the International Seabed Authority (ISA) in Kingston, Jamaica.
‘Handful of donations’ from Russia is not same as Black Sea grain deal: UN chief. Anadolu Agency (Türkiye). 27 July 2023. Available from: https://www.aa.com.tr/en/americas/handful-of-donations-from-russia-is-not-same-as-black-sea-grain-deal-un-chief/2956094 The UN secretary general said Wednesday that a “handful of donations” will not be the same as the Black Sea grain deal to help ease a global food crisis as Russia offered to provide free grain to six African countries after its withdrawal from the agreement.

G20 climate talks fail to deliver emission cuts despite leadership pleas. Matteo Civillini. Climate Home News. 28 July 2023. Available from: https://climatechangenews.com/2023/07/28/g20-climate-negotiations-fail-ministers-us-china/ Climate ministers from the G20 group of nations have failed to agree on targets to reduce emissions and accelerate the energy transition, laying bare entrenched divisions with only four months left before the start of Cop28.

Russia In The Black Sea. The Law Of Armed Conflict At Sea Needs Due Consideration Alongside UNCLOS. Steven Haines and David Hammond. Human Rights at Sea (HRAS). 29 July 2023. Available from: https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/news/russia-black-sea-law-armed-conflict-sea-needs-due-consideration-alongside-unclos The recent announcement by the Kremlin that Russia is pulling out of the arrangement by which grain has been shipped out of Ukrainian ports for global consumption, was accompanied by an explicit threat to all merchant shipping in the Black Sea region.


Pope urges Russian ‘brothers’ to restore Black Sea grain deal. Alvise Armellini and Olena Harmash. Reuters. 30 July 2023. Available from: https://www.reuters.com/world/pope-francis-appeals-russia-restore-black-sea-grain-deal-2023-07-30/ Pope Francis on Sunday called on Russia to reverse its decision to abandon the Black Sea grain deal, under which it had allowed Ukraine to export grain from its seaports despite the ongoing war.

MARINE TECHNOLOGY


Rapid progress of key clean energy technologies shows the new energy economy is emerging faster than many think. *International Energy Agency (IEA).* 12 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.iea.org/news/rapid-progress-of-key-clean-energy-technologies-shows-the-new-energy-economy-is-emerging-faster-than-many-think](https://www.iea.org/news/rapid-progress-of-key-clean-energy-technologies-shows-the-new-energy-economy-is-emerging-faster-than-many-think) But momentum in solar, EVs and heat pumps needs to expand quickly across more countries and to other parts of the energy system to move the world closer to net zero by 2050. *International Shipping*


Renewable production needed to make methanol a viable fuel for the maritime energy transition. *Lloyd's Register.* 18 July 2023. Available from: [https://tinyurl.com/4ckxpxfj](https://tinyurl.com/4ckxpxfj) Technology readiness is high for methanol, but pricing, availability and carbon accounting are obstacles to its widespread adoption.
New initiative to scale low-carbon fuel production adopted by ministers at global energy summit. *International Chamber of Shipping (ICS).* 20 July 2023. Available from: [https://tinyurl.com/ukk8t2m5](https://tinyurl.com/ukk8t2m5) The Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) has today adopted the Clean Energy Marine Hubs Initiative (CEM-Hubs) at a summit in Goa, India.


**MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING**


SRI Continues to Drive MLC Learning with the ILO. *Hellenic Shipping News.* 12 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/sri-continues-to-drive-mlc-learning-with-the-ilo/](https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/sri-continues-to-drive-mlc-learning-with-the-ilo/) Last week more than 50 senior legal professionals from 22 countries took the opportunity to increase their understanding of the MLC and the tough challenges faced in implementing its provisions and amendments across local jurisdictions.


Increased need for training to prepare seafarers for shipping’s multi-fuel future. Lloyd’s Register. 24 July 2023. Available from: https://www.lr.org/en/knowledge/industry-news/2023/increased-need-for-training-to-prepare-seafarers-for-shippings-multi-fuel-future/ With around 800,000 seafarers requiring additional training by the mid-2030s to rise to the challenge of the maritime energy transition, the importance of this training has been stressed by a number of key industry stakeholders at a recent IMarEST and Lloyd’s Register webinar, held to coincide with the annual Day of the Seafarer on 25 June.


The Green Curriculum: Moving on apace. Jeffrey Parfitt. Nautical Institute. 26 July 2023. Available from: https://www.nautinst.org/resources-page/the-green-curriculum-moving-on-pace.html There is increasing recognition of the need for seafarer training in the use of alternative fuels – but there is still work to be done, particularly with the announcement of IMO’s revised strategy for the reduction of greenhouse gases.

Let’s be honest: digital technology is leaving too many seafarers behind. Richard Clayton. Lloyd’s List. 26 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146016/ Seafarers initially find technology exciting and stimulating, but then reality kicks in and they become frustrated by what is now expected of them.

An exciting start to a career at sea. Gard. 26 July 2023. Available from: https://www.gard.no/web/articles?documentId=35725027 Cadetship is a great way to start your career at sea and for Gard’s latest sponsored cadet, Harriet Harding, it was even more so as she joined the Royal Research Ship Sir David Attenborough for the first sea phase of her cadetship.
MARITIME SAFETY


Focus: Ocean shippers playing catch up to electric vehicle fire risk. Lisa Baertlein and Anthony Deutsch. Reuters. 28 July 2023. Available from: https://www.reuters.com/business/autos-transportation/ocean-shippers-playing-catch-up-electric-vehicle-fire-risk-2023-07-27/ Electric vehicles are crisscrossing the globe to reach their eager buyers, but the battery technology involved in the zero- emission automobiles is exposing under-prepared maritime shippers to the risk of hard-to-control fires, industry, insurance and emergency response officials said.

INTERCARGO warns against complacency as liquefaction remains greatest contributor to deaths in dry bulk sector. International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners (INTERCARGO). 28 July 2023. Available from: https://www.intercargo.org/intercargo-warns-against-complacency/ Cargo liquefaction still remains the greatest contributor to loss of life associated with bulk carrier losses while grounding remains the main cause of ship losses, according to the recently published Bulk Carrier Casualty Report 2013-2022 from INTERCARGO.

Russia is threatening commercial vessels, say Ukrainian officials. Richard Meade. Lloyd's List. 28 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1146068/ Russian warships are threatening civilians in the Black Sea, violating all norms of international maritime law, according to Andriy Yermak, head of President Volodymyr Zelenskiy’s office.
MARITIME SECURITY

EUNAVFOR Atalanta at the Meeting of Directors of Defense Policy of the Spanish Presidency of the European Council, Toledo, 7th July 2023. EU NAVFOR Operation ATALANTA. 10 July 2023. Available from: https://eunavfor.eu/news/eunavfor-atalanta-meeting-directors-defense-policy-spanish-presidency-european-council-toledo-7th-july-2023 The Operation Commander (OPCDR) of EU NAVFOR ATALANTA, Vice Admiral Núñez Torrente, has participated at the EU Defence Policy Directors (DPD) meeting, held this Friday in Toledo within the framework of the events organised under the Spanish Presidency of the European Council.

Guards still needed in some areas, experts warn. David Osler. Lloyd’s List. 13 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydlist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145902 Shipping companies should still consider the use of armed guards as a protection against piracy in some parts of the world, despite a sharp decline in the problem over the last decade, experts have warned.

4 Nigerian stowaways found in Brazil days after Spain rescued two. Ships & Ports. 13 July 2023. Available from: https://shipsandports.com.ng/4-nigerian-stowaways-found-in-brazil-days-after-spain-rescued-two/ Four stowaways have been found alive in the rudder trunk of a Liberian-flagged ship after a 5,000 nautical mile voyage from Nigeria to Brazil.


US sending fighter jets, warship to Gulf region to protect ships from Iranian seizures. Tara Copp and Lolita C. Baldor. Associated Press. 17 July 2023. Available from: https://apnews.com/article/strait-hormuz-iran-ships-fighter-jets-145cd23de53c4aa8eff4ac34026d443f The U.S. is sending additional fighter jets and a warship to the Strait of Hormuz and Gulf of Oman to increase security in the wake of Iranian attempts to seize commercial ships there.


FSB claims explosives found on dry bulk ship heading to Russia. Richard Meade. Lloyd’s List. 24 July 2023. Available from: https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145990/ Russia’s federal security service, the FSB, claims it has found traces of explosives on an unnamed ship travelling from Türkiye to the port of Rostov-on-Don in Russia to pick up grain.


MIGRANTS


Eleven children die every week attempting to cross the Central Mediterranean Sea migration route – UNICEF. UNICEF. 13 July 2023. Available from: https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/eleven-children-die-every-week-attempting-cross-central-mediterranean-sea-migration At least 289 children are estimated to have died or disappeared this year attempting to cross the perilous Central Mediterranean Sea migration route from North Africa to Europe.

Central Mediterranean top migratory route into the EU in first half of 2023. FRONTEX European Border and Coast Guard Agency. 14 July 2023. Available from: https://frontex.europa.eu/media-centre/news/news-release/central-mediterranean-top-migratory-route-into-the-eu-in-first-half-of-2023-XtMpdL In the first six months of this year, the number of detections of irregular border crossings at EU’s external borders reached 132,370, the highest total for the first half of the year since 2016 and 10% more than a year ago, according to preliminary calculations*.


At least 17 bodies have been recovered after a migrant boat capsized off Senegal's capital city. Zane Irwin and Babacar Dione. *Associated Press*. 24 July 2023. Available from: [https://apnews.com/article/senegal-migration-boats-dead-bodies-dc6a67c32f61b9039125b7b3254372f](https://apnews.com/article/senegal-migration-boats-dead-bodies-dc6a67c32f61b9039125b7b3254372f) The bodies were discovered by the navy early in the morning and are believed to be migrants because of the type of boat they were in, said Ndeye Top Gueye, the deputy mayor of the Ouakam neighborhood of Dakar where the bodies were found.


**NAVIGATION & COMMUNICATIONS**

Piracy on the Black Sea: How Russia is waging war on Ukrainian exports. James S. Gilmore. *The Hill (US)*. 30 June 2023. Available from: [https://thehill.com/opinion/international/4073958-piracy-on-the-black-sea-how-russia-is-waging-war-on-ukrainian-experts](https://thehill.com/opinion/international/4073958-piracy-on-the-black-sea-how-russia-is-waging-war-on-ukrainian-experts) Russian forces have been looting civilian homes, private businesses and even cultural institutions such as art museums during their ongoing invasion of Ukraine.


Shipping halted after fatal attack on Kerch bridge between Russia and Crimea. Gary Dixon. TradeWinds. 17 July 2023. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/shippinghalted-after-fatal-attack-on-kerch-bridge-between-russia-and-crimea/2-1-1487314 Shipping operations are reported to have been stopped after explosions hit the Kerch bridge linking mainland Russia to the annexed Crimea region.


UPDATE 1-Ukraine setting up temporary shipping route after Russia exit - official letter. Jonathan Saul. Reuters. 19 July 2023. Available from: https://tinyurl.com/ytfs9y92 Ukraine is setting up a temporary shipping route to maintain grain shipments after Russia quit a deal allowing Ukrainian exports via a UN-backed safe corridor in the Black Sea, Kyiv said Wednesday.

Russia issues military threat to commercial shipping. Sam Chambers. Splash 247.com. 20 July 2023. Available from: https://splash247.com/russia-issues-military-threat-to-commercialshipping/ Russia has warned that from today ships travelling to Ukraine’s Black Sea ports will be considered potential military targets, as Kyiv said it would set up a temporary shipping route to continue grain exports following Moscow’s withdrawal from a deal that permitted food shipments from Ukraine’s ports.

Russia and Ukraine warn each other travelling ships part of war. Al Jazeera. 20 July 2023. Available from: https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/7/20/russia-warns-ships-traveling-to-ukraine-considered-part-of-war In response to threats from Moscow, Kyiv has warned that all ships calling at Russian-controlled ports in the Black Sea “may be considered by Ukraine as carrying military cargo with all the relevant risks”.

White House says Russia is preparing for attacks on civilian ships in Black Sea. Associated Press. 20 July 2023. Available from: https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-war-shipping-blacksea-6e7721886bb2b1d98af2e49cf6f67aaf Days after Russia suspended participation in a wartime deal that allowed grain to flow from Ukraine to countries around the world, the White House on Wednesday warned that the Russian military is preparing for possible attacks on civilian shipping vessels in the Black Sea.


Why do ships ‘zig’ when they should have ‘zagged’? *Nautical Institute.* 24 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.nautinst.org/resources-page/free-article-why-do-ships-zig-when-they-should-have-zagged.html](https://www.nautinst.org/resources-page/free-article-why-do-ships-zig-when-they-should-have-zagged.html) Keeping a safe navigation watch onboard a modern merchant vessel demands a high level of competency in many skills.


**Arctic set for summer surge of Russian crude tankers, say analysts.** Paul Peachey. *TradeWinds.* 28 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/arctic-set-for-summer-surge-of-russian-crude-tankers-say-analysts/2-1-1492877](https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/arctic-set-for-summer-surge-of-russian-crude-tankers-say-analysts/2-1-1492877) Two tankers hauling crude on the Northern Sea Route (NSR) are likely to be the first of many this summer as Russia presses ahead with plans to exploit its Arctic oil resources, say analysts.

**PIRACY**

**Lives Less Ordinary: How I survived a pirate hijack.** *BBC World Service.* 2 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0fy6vk9](https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0fy6vk9) Marine engineer Chirag Bahri was trapped for eight gruelling months on a chemical tanker.


**Marine insurer warns: Pirates have become more violent.** Niklas Krigslund. *ShippingWatch.* 17 July 2023. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article16293825.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article16293825.ece) Pirate attacks in Southeast Asia are on the rise, and the number of cases of armed pirates and hostage situations has increased, according to the Norwegian Hull Club.

PORT STATE CONTROL


Panama Canal extends restrictions after lack of rain. Tomas Kristiansen. ShippingWatch. 26 July 2023. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article16312034.ece Despite the rainy season, the water level in the Panama Canal has risen only slightly, forcing the authorities to extend the restrictions that have been in place for months.

PORTS & HARBOURS

From Los Angeles to Shanghai, the port cities collaborating to cut shipping emissions. Sarah LaBrecque. Reuters. 3 July 2023. Available from: https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/climate-energy/los-angeles-shanghai-port-cities-collaborating-cut-shipping-emissions-2023-07-03/ Left unchecked, shipping emissions could grow to 130% of 2008 levels by 2050, according to the IMO.

Port of Long Beach hangs climate targets on controversial government support. Peter Thomsen. ShippingWatch. 5 July 2023. Available from: https://shippingwatch.com/Ports/article16268999.ece When one of the world's largest container ports, Long Beach, invests tens of millions of dollars in the pursuit of climate neutrality, it is armed with solid support directly from the US Treasury.


Union, employer reach tentative 4-year deal to end B.C. port strike. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC). 13 July 2023. Available from: https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/bc-port-strike-deal-deadline-1.6905492 The 13-day B.C. port strike appears to be over after the International Longshore and Warehouse Union Canada and the B.C. Maritime Employers Association agreed to a tentative four-year deal on Thursday morning, both parties have confirmed.


Russia attacks Odesa as Ukraine seeks new grain export corridor. Harry Papachristou. TradeWinds. 18 July 2023. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/bulkers/russia-attacks-odesa-as-ukraine-seeks-new-grain-export-corridor/2-1-1488061 A missile attack that damaged facilities near the port of Odesa highlights how difficult it will be for Ukraine to revive a grain export corridor in the Black Sea.


B.C. port workers resume strike after union rejects tentative deal. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC). 19 July 2023. Available from: https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/bc-port-workers-resume-strike-1.6910572 B.C. port workers say they will resume striking as soon as Saturday, after their Tuesday job action was ruled illegal and they were ordered back to work Wednesday morning.


REGULATIONS


Emissions data tracking key to EU ETS and CII cost management. Knut Ljungberg. DNV. 6 July 2023. Available from: https://www.dnv.com/expert-story/maritime-impact/emissions-data-tracking-key-to-eu-ets-and-cii-cost-management.html. Requirements to reduce emissions will have a significant impact beyond regulatory compliance as they will also affect economic factors such as operating costs, balance sheet risk, commercial attractiveness, earnings capacity, access to capital and asset values, as well as financial control.

The route to regulating autonomous vessels. Mark Johnson, Fiona Cain and Kayley Rousell. ShipTechnology. 17 July 2023. Available from: https://www.ship-technology.com/comment/the-route-to-regulating-autonomous-vessels/ There have been significant developments with respect to the regulation of autonomous vessels recently, including Remotely Operated Manned Vessels (ROUVs) and Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS), both domestically within the UK and at an international level.


How will the UN’s plan to regulate the high seas impact maritime industries? Eric Priante Martin. TradeWinds. 18 July 2023. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/esg/how-will-the-un-s-plan-to-regulate-the-high-seas-impact-maritime-industries/-2-1-1478883 As the United Nations’ effort to protect biodiversity in the oceans shifts from the adoption of the “high seas” treaty to securing ratification by 60 countries, how will this new convention impact maritime industries?


EU achieves ambitious climate regulations for shipping. Danish Shipping. 25 July 2023. Available from: https://danishshipping.dk/en/all-press-releases/2023/eu-achieves-ambitious-climate-regulations-for-shipping/ After two years of intense negotiations, today the EU has adopted the final rules for climate-neutral shipping, as proposed in the ambitious climate package "Fit for 55".

SALVAGE


Yemen: Transfer of oil from decaying ship expected to start next week. UN News. 10 July 2023. Available from: https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/07/1138517 Carrying over 1.1 million barrels of oil, the supertanker FSO Safer was abandoned off Yemen’s Red Sea port of Hudaydah after the civil war broke out in the country in 2015.


UN hands over ship for oil transfer from rusting Yemen tanker. France 24. 17 July 2023. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eG9kBDAbMXs The United Nations on Monday handed over a vessel that will take on board oil from a decaying tanker in the Red Sea off war-torn Yemen, an operation aimed at averting an environmental catastrophe.

Defusing Disaster: Oil transfer from FSO SAFER to turn off the Ticking Time Bomb. Greenpeace International. 20 July 2023. Available from: https://www.greenpeace.org/international/story/60808/defusing-disaster-oil-transfer-from-fso-safer-to-turn-off-the-ticking-time-bomb/ After more than eight years and numerous false alarms, the hazardous operation to remove more than a million barrels of oil from the decaying supertanker, the FSO SAFER, in the Red Sea off the southern coast of Yemen, is poised to begin.

A salvage team is set to begin siphoning oil out of rusting tanker moored off Yemen, UN says. *Samy Magdy. Associated Press*. 23 July 2023. Available from: [https://apnews.com/article/yemen-war-safer-tanker-oil-red-sea-a1b2a619808dfeec1f989949790f6431b](https://apnews.com/article/yemen-war-safer-tanker-oil-red-sea-a1b2a619808dfeec1f989949790f6431b) An international team is set to begin siphoning oil out of the hull of a decrepit tanker moored off the coast of war-torn Yemen this week, a U.N. official said Sunday.


Inside the UN’s $143 Million Race to Avoid a Massive Oil Spill. *Wall Street Journal*. 23 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4EheJlwY4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4EheJlwY4) The Red Sea could face an ecological disaster if an abandoned tanker called the FSO Safer breaks up and spills more than a million barrels of oil off the coast of Yemen.


Salvage crews begin towing a burning cargo ship to a new location off the Dutch coast as smoke eases. *Associated Press*. 30 July 2023. Available from: [https://apnews.com/article/ship-fire-cars-dutch-singapore-bird-wind-cc22e1ae9da1f78920986ef297d4beb8d](https://apnews.com/article/ship-fire-cars-dutch-singapore-bird-wind-cc22e1ae9da1f78920986ef297d4beb8d) Salvage crews started towing a burning cargo ship loaded with thousands of cars to a temporary anchorage location off the northern Dutch coast on Sunday after smoke pouring from the stricken vessel eased.


SEAFARERS


Seafarers traumatised by accident investigations, rights campaigners claim. David Osler. Lloyd's List. 12 July 2023. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145857/](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145857/) Seafarers are at risk of traumatisation from accident investigations, according to rights campaigners who have launched a new research programme into the fairness of how they are treated in such circumstances.

Korea to enhance working conditions for seafarers on labor shortage in industry. Pulse (South Korea). 13 July 2023. Available from: [https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?sc=30800028&year=2023&no=531682](https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?sc=30800028&year=2023&no=531682) The South Korean government is taking immediate action to enhance employment conditions in the shipping industry to boost the income and welfare of Korean seafarers and restore their professional status.


Company struggles to recruit seafarers: Many don’t want to hire Russians. ShippingWatch. 18 July 2023. Available from: [https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article16296705.ece](https://shippingwatch.com/carriers/article16296705.ece) One of the reasons for the labor shortage is that ship owners have largely stopped hiring Russian seafarers, according to Danica Crewing Specialists.


Competition for seafarer competence is shipowners’ latest challenge. Richard Clayton. Lloyd’s List. 19 July 2023. Available from: [https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145955/](https://lloydslist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1145955/) The officer supply shortfall has reached a record high, but the industry should be more worried about officers’ competence than their actual numbers, says Hamburg-based Danica Crewing Specialists chief executive Henrik Jensen.

Jamaica and Canada sign reciprocal recognition agreement to benefit seafarer training and employment. *All About Shipping*. 20 July 2023. Available from: https://allaboutshipping.co.uk/2023/07/20/jamaica-and-canada-sign-reciprocal-recognition-agreement-to-benefit-seafarer-training-and-employment/ Jamaica and Canada have signed a Reciprocal Recognition Agreement to enable seafarers from the two countries to work on ships sailing under the Jamaican or Canadian flags.


Chamber reacts to publication of Seafarers’ Charter. *UK Chamber of Shipping*. 24 July 2023. Available from: https://www.ukchamberofshipping.com/news/chamber-reacts-publication-seafarers-charter The Seafarers’ Charter, part of the UK Government’s, nine point plan for seafarers has been published alongside a similar initiative by the French Government during a visit by Maritime Minister Baroness Vere to Paris today to meet her counterpart Minister Berville.


SEARCH & RESCUE


SHIP RECYCLING


NGOs warn that Hong Kong Convention will fail to ensure sustainable ship recycling. NGO Shipbreaking Platform. 4 July 2023. Available from: https://shipbreakingplatform.org/hkc-fails-to-ensure-sustainable-ship-recycling/ The International Maritime Organisation’s (IMO) Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships will enter into force in June 2025 as major flag state Liberia and the Government of Bangladesh, heavily pushed by Japan and Norway, have now ratified the Convention fourteen years after its adoption.

NGOs call on the Netherlands to push for the safe and environmentally sound recycling of FSO Safer. NGO Shipbreaking Platform. 5 July 2023. Available from: [https://shipbreakingplatform.org/ngos-urge-nl-to-ensure-clean-and-safe-recycling-of-fso-safer/](https://shipbreakingplatform.org/ngos-urge-nl-to-ensure-clean-and-safe-recycling-of-fso-safer/) As the operations for the removal of the oil on-board the decaying Floating Storage and Offloading (FSO) vessel SAFER are taking place off the coast of Yemen, the UNDP is looking for a destination for the FSO’s recycling.


Govt working to promote ship recycling industry to international standard. *Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS).* 28 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.bssnews.net/news/138893](https://www.bssnews.net/news/138893) Industries Minister Nurul Majid Mahmud Humayun today said the government is working to promote ship recycling industry to international standard.

**SHIPBUILDING & SHIPREPAIR**


**SHIPPING**


Destination net zero. *Hellenic Shipping News*. 4 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/destination-net-zero/](https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/destination-net-zero/) The net zero targets of major container shipping lines are much ambitious than the IMO, which is under pressure to follow their lead.


MPA Singapore and Lloyd’s Register sign ‘Silk Alliance’ MoU aimed at driving zero-emission shipping across the Indian and Pacific Oceans. *Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)*. 5 July 2023. Available from: [https://tinyurl.com/3ffhyw2n](https://tinyurl.com/3ffhyw2n) The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) and Lloyd’s Register Maritime Decarbonisation Hub (LR MDH) have signed a MoU aimed at collaborating on a fleet-specific decarbonisation strategy and implementation plan for ‘The Silk Alliance’ cross-industry initiative to enable zero-emission shipping across the Indian and Pacific Oceans.


Shipping remains a dirty business despite promises to clean up its act. *Geographical*. 13 July 2023. Available from: [https://geographical.co.uk/science-environment/turning-the-tide-on-global-shipping-dirty-fuel-consumption](https://geographical.co.uk/science-environment/turning-the-tide-on-global-shipping-dirty-fuel-consumption) In recent years, various attempts have been made to clean up the sector, including the introduction (in 2020) of fuel regulations to reduce air pollution.

The impact of 1 knot on emissions. *Sea*. 13 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.sea.live/blog/the-impact-of-1-knot-on-emissions/](https://www.sea.live/blog/the-impact-of-1-knot-on-emissions/) Oliver Buchanan, Product Manager for Carbon discusses the latest IMO targets and just some of the steps we can take across the industry.

Europe’s shipping emissions up to three year high. *Transport & Environment*. 13 July 2023. Available from: [https://www.transportenvironment.org/discover/europes-shipping-emissions-up-to-three-year-high/](https://www.transportenvironment.org/discover/europes-shipping-emissions-up-to-three-year-high/) European shipping emissions grew 3% last year as the industry edges closer to pre-pandemic levels, new Transport & Environment (T&E) analysis shows.


Podcast: Where is shipping’s decarbonisation drive headed after historic IMO decision? Eric Priante Martin. TradeWinds. 14 July 2023. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/esg/podcast-where-is-shipping-s-decarbonisation-drive-headed-after-historic-imo-decision-2-1-1486120 The IMO will now have to turn its new targets for shipping’s carbon footprint into policy action to push the industry towards the new goals.

Maritime industry must ensure women overcome sector challenges. News Ghana. 16 July 2023. Available from: https://newsghana.com.gh/maritime-industry-must-ensure-women-overcome-sector-challenges/ The Women in Maritime of West and Central Africa (WIMOWCA) has urged stakeholders in the maritime industry to ensure that the challenges that women currently face in the sector are overcome.


European shipping will be dependent on fossil fuels beyond 2050, study. Transport & Environment. 18 July 2023. Available from: https://www.transportenvironment.org/discover/european-shipping-will-be-dependent-on-fossil-fuels-beyond-2050-study/ The EU’s landmark green shipping law will still leave the bloc dependent on fossil fuels beyond 2050, new Transport & Environment (T&E) analysis shows.


Estonian shale oil producers not worried about CO2 reductions in shipping. ERR News (Estonia). 19 July 2023. Available from: https://news.err.ee/1609038314/estonian-shale-oil-producers-not-worried-about-co2-reductions-in-shipping “As both the transformation of the oil shale industry into a chemical industry and the reduction of the shipping industry’s carbon footprint are long processes, we don’t see this agreement having a significant impact on our operations,” Enefit Power CEO Andres Vainola told ERR.

Comment: Why the renewal of the Black Sea grain deal proved a bridge too far.
Terry Macalister. TradeWinds. 20 July 2023. Available from: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/opinion/comment-why-the-renewal-of-the-black-sea-grain-deal-proved-a-bridge-too-far/2-1-1488158 The attack on the Kerch bridge between Russia and the annexed Crimea may have appeared to mark the demise of Black Sea Grain Initiative but the writing had been on the wall for some time.


Divisions Among Countries Hindering Shipping’s Decarbonization. Nikos Roussanoglou. Hellenic Shipping News. 24 July 2023. Available from: https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/divisions-among-countries-hindering-shippings-decarbonization/ As the shipping industry, but also the IMO is facing increased pressure towards its decarbonization goals, it’s important to note that reaching consensus among all member states, is proving to be rather difficult, as some blocs (like for example China and its allies), are exerting significant pressure to delay decisions, or reduce the targets set, citing high costs and other reasons.

Shipping challenges high on agenda with EU ambassadors. Cyprus Mail. 24 July 2023. Available from: https://cyprus-mail.com/2023/07/24/shipping-challenges-high-on-agenda-with-eu-ambassadors/ Challenges within the shipping industry were discussed at separate meetings between the ambassadors of the Netherlands and Germany, with Deputy Shipping Minister Marina Hadjimanoli on Monday.

How could the billions saved by decarbonising shipping be spent? RTÉ (Ireland). 25 July 2023. Available from: https://www.rte.ie/brainstorm/2023/0725/1396327-how-could-the-billions-saved-by-decarbonising-shipping-be-spent/ There is a high chance that whatever you are wearing, holding in your hand or had for breakfast this morning travelled across the sea at some point.

Cruise industry tries to become more sustainable. Deutsche Welle (Germany). 26 July 2023. Available from: https://www.dw.com/en/cruise-industry-tries-to-become-more-sustainable/a-66329861 If all goes according to the cruise ship industry’s plans, the first climate-neutral passenger cruise vessels will set sail in 2030.


Launch of ESG Index for maritime. Stavros Karamperidis. All About Shipping. 30 July 2023. Available from: https://allaboutshipping.co.uk/2023/07/30/launch-of-esg-index-for-maritime/ Leading maritime academic institutions, the University of Plymouth, UK and the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece, alongside an advisory committee of industry experts, have developed a unique ESG reporting methodological framework and index, catered to the individualities of the maritime sector.
RESEARCH


To subscribe or unsubscribe, send an email with your contact details to: maritimeknowledgecentre@imo.org

About the front cover

The CAB front cover is a photograph of the international memorial to the world’s seafarers, past, present and future which graces the entrance to IMO Headquarters in London. The memorial, a seven-metre high, ten-tonne bronze representation of the bow of a cargo ship with a lone seafarer on the deck, is the work of internationally renowned British sculptor Michael Sandle.