

MOBILIZING MARITIME

21 February 2025
Issue 13

New Year Message from the IMO's SG



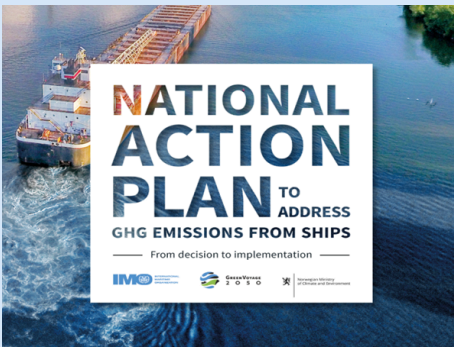
UPDATES FROM
IMO MEETINGS

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Climate action and GHG emissions



New countries join GreenVoyage2050

Several more countries have joined GreenVoyage2050. Some will receive support to develop National Action Plans (NAPs) for reducing shipping GHG emissions, while others will work on feasibility studies for zero or near-zero emission solutions for ships and ports. IMO will announce further details soon.

[Explore project ↗](#)



Third annual GHG-SMART training and site visit in Busan

The GHG-SMART Project held its third annual training and site visit in Busan, Republic of Korea (4-8 November), with maritime professionals from 13 SIDS and LDCs across Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and the Pacific. Topics covered decarbonization, alternative fuels, National Action Plans (NAPs), port and ship efficiency, and climate finance.

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Maritime decarbonization challenge concludes: Solutions ready

Four pilot projects in Mauritius, St. Kitts and Nevis, Namibia, and Trinidad and Tobago, developed under the IMO CARES Global Technology Challenge, aim to cut port emissions through renewable energy and data-sharing. These initiatives aim to demonstrate quantifiable GHG reductions and offer scalable solutions, utilizing bioenergy, wind power and “Just-in-Time” port call optimization.

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Implementing partner agreements with MTCCs

The GMN II Project supports decarbonization efforts in partnership with regional MTCCs. MTCC Caribbean is preparing for a regional workshop in February 2025 to promote the energy-efficient technologies and advance decarbonization in the Caribbean.

[Explore Project ↗](#)



The 4th IMO-UNEP-Norway Innovation Forum

The 4th IMO-UNEP-Norway Innovation Forum (24-25 October) produced key recommendations for governments, industry, and maritime stakeholders, focusing finance, seafarer training, regulatory frameworks, and national technology and innovation strategies. The forum aimed to foster collaboration and innovation for maritime decarbonization in developing countries.

[Read the recommendations ↗](#)



New Tools and Insights: WMU's literature review and FFT portal updates

The World Maritime University (WMU) is conducting a literature review to assess the potential impacts of IMO mid-term measures on food security. Outcomes will be presented at the GHG Expert Workshop (GHG-EW 6) on 13 February 2025. Additionally, the FFT online portal now includes the Fuel Cost Calculator and Carbon Intensity Toolkit, developed by the Mærsk Mc-Kinney Møller Center for Zero Carbon Shipping and the Energy and Environmental Research Associates (EERA).



[Explore portal ↗](#)

2023 IMO GHG Strategy



IMO heads to COP 29 to promote net-zero framework for shipping

IMO Secretary-General Arsenio Dominguez led a delegation to the annual UN Climate Change Conference COP 29 held in Baku, Azerbaijan (11-22 November). IMO submitted a document to SBSTA 61, outlining the progress made and actions taken to date to support maritime climate action. An official side event at COP 29 brought together IMO, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) to discuss the theme: "Decarbonising Transport: Policies and Strategies For Aviation, Maritime and Land".

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Oceans and biodiversity



The 3rd GloFouling Partnerships R&D Forum held in Busan, Korea

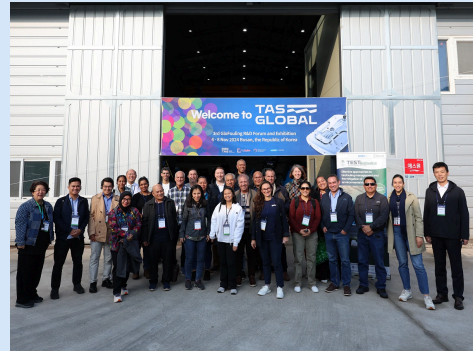
The 3rd GloFouling Partnerships R&D Forum held in Busan, Korea (4-8 November), highlighted the effects of invasive aquatic species and showcased innovative biofouling management technologies. Over 250 participants explored solutions like anti-fouling coatings, in-water cleaning, and digital tools. The event also explored fuel efficiency, strategies for marine protected areas, and promoted gender equality.

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The Asia-Pacific regional technology pilot demonstrated innovative solutions

As part of the 3rd GloFouling Partnerships R&D Forum, the Asia-Pacific regional technology pilot demonstrated innovative solutions to tackle biofouling, including in-water cleaning technologies and hull maintenance strategies. The pilot aims to enhance awareness and adoption of sustainable practices, and collaboration among maritime industry leaders.

[Explore project ↗](#)



Ship recycling



From Waste to Wealth: Unlocking investment opportunities in ship recycling

As part of Hong Kong Maritime Week, this event underscored the need for robust investments to ensure ship recycling yards meet international standards for operational safety, environmental protection and wellbeing of the workforce, as outlined in the Hong Kong Convention, which will enter into force in June 2025.

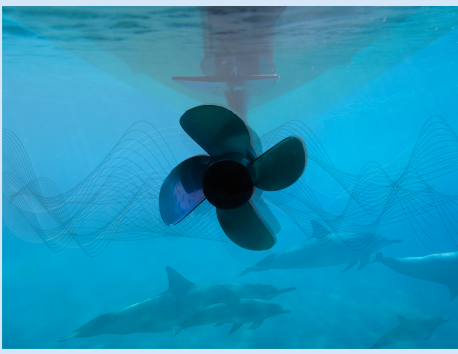
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One step closer to green and sustainable ship recycling in Asia

Through IMO's ITCP, 32 participants from major ship-recycling countries in Asia attended an in-person subregional workshop in Manila, Philippines (6-8 November). The workshop aimed to enhance compliance and safety in ship recycling, in line with the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships (HKC).

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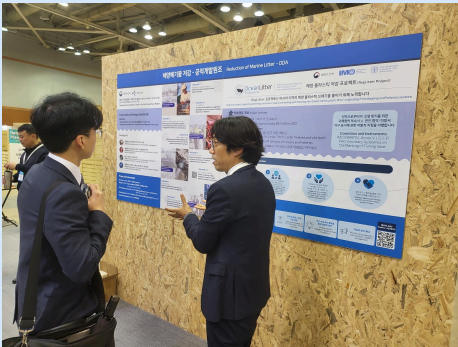




IMO-WMU workshop on underwater radiated noise reduction policies and strategies

Over 200 participants attended a workshop (15-16 October) on underwater radiated noise organized by the GloNoise Project and WMU, with support from the Schlüter Foundation, including experts from various organizations and representatives of beneficiary countries such as Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, India and South Africa. More than 50 countries registered for the event.

[Explore topic ↗](#)



OceanLitter programme highlights IMO action on marine litter at INC-5

The OceanLitter Programme was unveiled at INC-5 in Busan, Korea (25 November-2 December) with a dedicated promotional booth to share information about the programme's activities and future with a global audience. The event brought together about 2,000 participants from over 170 countries. The booth helped connect with stakeholders interested in addressing sea-based marine plastic litter.

[Explore INC-5 ↗](#)

Jamaica national event on port waste management plan and port State control

National workshops on port waste management plan were held in Maceio, Brazil (2-3 December) and Kingston, Jamaica (9-10 December), where stakeholders involved in ship-related wastes in ports received information on regulations and best practices. They used the information to draft their own port waste management plans.

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Brazil regional event on port State control and national event on port waste management plan

Regional training on Port State Control (PSC) on MARPOL Annex V was held in Maceio, Brazil (4-6 December), for PSC Officers from Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Panama and Costa-Rica. The training includes theoretical and practical aspects, including a mock PSC inspection on board a ship. A similar activity was organized in Kingston, Jamaica (11-13 December) with national participants and PSC officers.

[Explore project ↗](#)



Putting IMO instruments into practice in the Pacific

Public officials from 11 Pacific Island countries enhanced their capacity to implement IMO conventions at a regional workshop in Fiji (12-14 November). Organized by IMO and SPC under the SMART-C Leaders Project, the event focused on IMSAS audit findings, CAPs, and compliance with the III Code, promoting regional cooperation and effective maritime governance.

[Read full article ↗](#)

SMART-C LC/LP

Waste dumping at sea: New project to help prevent marine pollution

Education and collaborative research are at the heart of a new project aimed at promoting implementation of the London Protocol (LP), which prohibits dumping at sea. The SMART-C LC/LP project will focus on building capacity to implement the provisions of the LP treaty and enhance protection of the marine environment.



[Read full article ↗](#)

Preparedness & response to marine pollution incidents



Ukraine explores accession to IMO oil spill response Convention

Ukraine received support for accession to the OPRC Convention through a feasibility study conducted virtually (1 October-30 November). The study evaluated Ukraine's legislative framework, institutional capacity, and resources for oil pollution preparedness and response, aimed at developing a roadmap for accession to the Convention, while identifying barriers to implementation.

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Caspian Sea States bolster regional cooperation on oil spill response

Caspian Sea governments gathered in Aktau, Kazakhstan (8-10 October) to update and finalize a draft regional action plan for responding to major oil spills through the "Aktau Protocol Plan" under the Tehran Convention. Delegates tested the plan and assessed the implementation of regional protocols through a table-top exercise and by using the RETOS tool.



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Tackling transboundary oil spills in the Gulf of Thailand

Officials from Cambodia, Thailand, and Viet Nam, alongside industry representatives, participated in an IMO workshop in Bangkok, Thailand (19-21 November) to finalize regional guidelines for the use of chemical dispersants in responding to oil spills in a transboundary setting. Discussions emphasized regional collaboration, national strategies, and compliance with the OPRC Convention.

[Read full article ↗](#)

African countries set plans to improve how they deal with oil spills

Twenty African countries gathered in Lomé, Togo (25-28 November) for the 10th Regional Conference of the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa (GI WACAF). The event highlighted specific needs requiring IMO assistance, including improving national response systems; updating oil spill contingency plans; developing guidelines; and enhancing cooperation.



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Ballast water management



Cuba gears up to join ballast water management Convention

Cuban officials participated in a national workshop in Havana, Cuba (22-24 October), aimed at strengthening Cuba's capacity for the ratification, effective implementation and enforcement of the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention. The training covered the technical aspects of the BWM Convention and related Guidelines, compliance monitoring, enforcement for port State control, and risk mitigation.

[Read full article ↗](#)

Supporting ballast water management in East Asia

Thirty government officials attended a regional workshop in Singapore (12-14 November) on IMO's Ballast Water Management Convention. Participants learned about obligations of Parties under the Convention; compliance monitoring and enforcement for port State control; risk mitigation; and ballast water sampling techniques. The event raised awareness of the Convention and related Guidelines among East Asian countries.



[Read full article ↗](#)

Dumping of wastes at sea



Kenya advances efforts to curb dumping of wastes at sea

A national workshop in Mombasa (2-4 November) brought together more than 25 senior officials from diverse government agencies to discuss the legal, technical and administrative aspects related to applying the London Protocol (LP) in Kenya as a legal framework for marine pollution management, including possible barriers to implementation.

[Read full article ↗](#)

Supporting Colombia on waste dumping treaty – the London Protocol

Senior officials from various national authorities and agencies of Colombia, as well as other relevant stakeholders, examined the key legal, technical and administrative matters to support implementation of the London Protocol (LP) as a legal framework for marine pollution management, during a national seminar held in Bogota, Colombia (6-7 November).



[Read full article ↗](#)

Pollution prevention



Supporting cleaner seas and better air quality in Egypt

More than 40 Egyptian officials joined a national workshop in Alexandria, Egypt (26-27 November), aimed at supporting Egypt to accede to and implement MARPOL Annex VI, including regulations aimed at cutting air pollution from ships in the Mediterranean.

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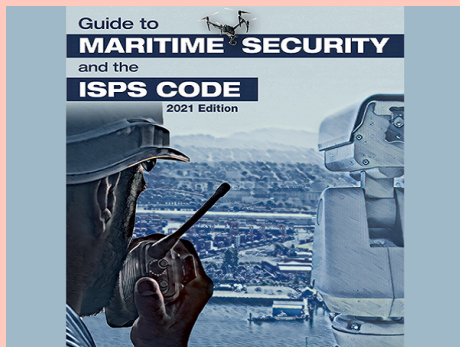
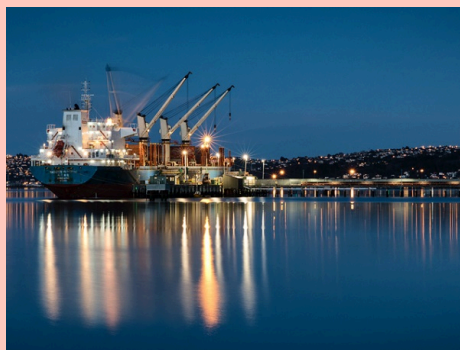
Supporting cleaner seas and better air quality in Morocco

A national workshop in Rabat, Morocco (10-11 December), has helped lay the groundwork for Morocco to accede to and implement MARPOL Annex VI, including regulations aimed at cutting air pollution from ships in the Mediterranean.

[Read full article ↗](#)



Port Security Project



Project on Port Security and Safety of Navigation in Eastern & Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean: Regional and national workshops

- Key maritime agencies in Tanzania upgraded their skills in port security planning, through a training workshop in Dar es Salaam (30 September-4 October). Participants learned to develop and implement Port Facility Security Plans (PFSPs), to help protect the Port of Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Mtwara and Zanzibar from risks such as terrorism, smuggling, and piracy.

[Read full article ↗](#)

- A security assessment of the Port of Luanda (21-25 October) was carried out with the assistance of the Agência Marítima Nacional (AMN), gathering 28 participants from various organisations. The assessment identified key assets and potential threats and prioritised countermeasures. The resulting risk register, a first for the Port of Luanda, will form the basis for preparing Port Security Plan for Luanda.

[Explore Port of Luanda ↗](#)

- A national workshop for Port Facility Security Officers (PFSO) was held in Luanda, Angola (28-30 October). It covered the development and implementation of a port facility security plan; assessment of security risks; port facility inspections; security equipment and systems; and security awareness and vigilance. This was followed by a national workshop on Security awareness for personnel without security duties (31 October).

[Explore Port Security project ↗](#)

- A national workshop on the integration of international maritime security instruments into national legislation was held in Luanda, Angola (4-8 November). The aim was to assist the Government in the domestication of international IMO instruments related to port security and safety, particularly SOLAS

Chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code. [Explore Topic](#) ↗



- IMO delivered a national workshop on ISPS Code for 27 participants from main ports in Madagascar (4-8 November), including port facility security officers, access control officers, and representatives from Gendarmerie Nationale and Immigration agencies. The training was based on IMO model course 3.24 on Security Training for Port Facility Personnel with Designated Security Duties. [Read full article](#) ↗
- A national workshop on Port State Control in Toamasina, Madagascar (25-29 November), helped 22 participants, including 14 PSCOs, to improve their capacity and knowledge about the application of control and compliance measures under SOLAS Convention, specifically Chapter XI-2 on special measures to enhance maritime security. [Read full article](#) ↗
- IMO conducted a national tabletop exercise followed by a workshop on National Maritime Security Committee in Moroni, Comoros (9-12 December) to ensure coordination and cooperation between government ministries and agencies to enhance maritime and port security. [Read full article](#) ↗
- IMO delivered a workshop in Port Louis, Mauritius (9-13 December) for 25 senior personnel in charge of the implementation of the port facility security plans. Participants enhanced their knowledge and skills required to perform their duties in accordance with provisions of the SOLAS Chapter IX-2 and the ISPS Code. [Read full article](#) ↗

Red Sea Project

Regional Programme for Maritime Security in the Red Sea Area, funded by the European Union

Series of workshops held to promote safety and security for participating countries.

- IMO delivered a national train-the trainer workshop for port facility security officers at the Djibouti Regional Training Centre (DRTC) (27-31 October). The training engaged port facility security officers, training officers, port security staff, and facility managers in developing and implementing robust port security frameworks to protect against security threats. [Read full article](#) ↗



- To continue strengthening information sharing and fostering enhanced cooperation on maritime security challenges in the Red Sea area, IMO contributed to the discussions held at the UNODC-led Maritime Law Enforcement Forum (4-6 November), aimed at addressing challenges and exploring opportunities for improving maritime domain awareness.

[Explore Red Sea project ↗](#)

- IMO continued its maritime security capacity building efforts in Somalia at the port of Bossaso (12-14 December), in collaboration with EUCAP Somalia. The training focused on port facility security assessments to develop a comprehensive port facility security plan to meet ongoing security threats in the region, under the framework of the EU-funded Red Sea Project.

[Read full article ↗](#)



IMO Gender Equality Markers developed and implemented for 2025 planning

IMO has created a Gender Equality Marker (GEM) to track financial resources allocated for gender equality, aligning with UN system-wide requirements. Starting in 2025, GEM will apply to all technical cooperation programmes, with reporting available from 2026.

[Explore programme ↗](#)



SMART-C Women Quotes Campaign

SMART-C Women launched a LinkedIn account to run a campaign featuring insights from participants of the Women Training programme, in the form of quotes highlighting their work, experiences, career development, and personal growth. Quotes from nine women have been published on LinkedIn.

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