

TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE
67th session
Agenda item 5(a)

TC 67/5(a)
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THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(a) Maritime transport policy development

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document provides updated information on the work undertaken by the Secretariat to enhance assistance to Member States in the development of National Maritime Transport Policies (NMTPs)

Strategic direction: 3.5

High-level action: 3.5.3

Output: 3.5.3.2

Action to be taken: Paragraph 7

Related documents: TC 65/6(a) and TC 66/5(a)

Introduction

1 At its sixty-sixth session, the Committee was provided with information on the work undertaken by the Secretariat to assist Member States in formulating and adopting their National Maritime Transport Policies (NMTPs) through the development of a maritime transport policy training package and the subsequent delivery of training events via a pilot project.

Development and finalization of a training package to promote NMTPs

2 The training package, which was developed by the World Maritime University (WMU) in close cooperation with the Secretariat, primarily consists of a three-day workshop for Government officials and other personnel involved in the development and preparation of NMTPs and a one-day seminar for senior officials who review and recommend NMTPs for adoption. The workshop and seminar training material highlights the importance of developing and adopting NMTPs and provides beneficiaries with the required knowledge and skills which are necessary to prepare such policies that will in turn enhance the implementation of their obligations as flag, port and coastal States and lead to better regulation of the maritime transport sector. The training material also outlines the priorities and challenges to be considered in formulating and developing NMTPs and includes practical exercises aimed at assisting the participants to develop the required skills to prepare these policies.

3 The workshop and seminar training material was tested and assessed throughout the delivery of a number of maritime transport policy related activities, taking also into consideration the feedback received from the participants who have attended the various regional and national seminars and workshops organized by the Secretariat since the latter part of 2015. Following various amendments and improvements, the training package material is now finalized and will soon be translated into the three working languages of IMO to enable delivery of the training in other languages to interested Member States.

4 To complement the training material, action is now also being taken to produce a short video to promote and advocate the development and adoption of NMTPs. The video should provide a useful tool to assist the Secretariat and senior Government officials to raise awareness at the political level on the importance and usefulness of NMTPs for a country's maritime, social and economic development while also providing a long-term vision for the future of the maritime sector.

Delivery of maritime transport policy related activities

5 Since TC 66, four maritime transport policy activities have been delivered: a series of national workshops were held in the Seychelles (November 2016), in Antigua and Barbuda (May 2017) and in Nigeria (June 2017); a maritime transport policy seminar was also delivered to the students following post-graduate studies at the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) in Malta (February 2017). A national workshop is planned to be held in Thailand (October 2017) and another in Kenya (November 2017).

6 NMTPs are not only important to the development of the maritime transport sector but could also be crucial for the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) particularly at the country level as these policies, together with the utilization of the Country Maritime Profiles (CMPs), could serve to mainstream IMO's technical assistance work on the SDGs. Through NMTPs and CMPs, IMO could assist Member States in the development of their national plans to reflect the maritime sector in the SDGs' implementation, which would also allow them to source the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) at the country level. In this regard and with a view to enhancing the assistance to Member States in the development, adoption and review of NMTPs, maritime transport policy training is once again being included in the IMO Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) global programme for capacity building and training. This should enable the Organization to favourably respond to the increasing number of related technical assistance requests from Member States.

Action requested of the Committee

7 The Committee is invited to consider the information provided in this document and to comment, as it may deem appropriate.
