

2010



**YEAR OF THE
SEAFARER**

OBJECTIVES

- 1 to provide the maritime community with an opportunity to pay tribute to seafarers for their unique contribution to society and in recognition of the vital part they play in the facilitation of global trade;
- 2 to add impetus to the ongoing “**Go to Sea!**” campaign, which the International Maritime Organization (IMO) launched in November 2008, in association with the International Labour Organization, the “Round Table” of shipping industry organizations (International Chamber of Shipping(ICS)/International shipping Federation (ISF), BIMCO, International Association of Independent Tanker Owners (INTERTANKO) and International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners (INTERCARGO) and International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF);
- 3 to reassure those working at the “sharp end” of the industry that those responsible for the international regulatory regime and those who serve shipping from ashore understand the extreme pressures that seafarers face and, as a result, approach their own work with a genuine sympathy for the work that seafarers carry out; and
- 4 to convey to the 1.5 million seafarers of the world a clear message that the entire shipping community understands and cares for them – as shown by the efforts to ensure that seafarers are fairly treated when ships become involved in accidents; are looked after when abandoned in ports; are not refused shore leave for security purposes; are protected when their work takes them into piracy-infested areas; and also to ensure that they are not left alone when in distress at sea.



PLANNED ACTIVITIES

The following are amongst the principal activities planned in support of the World Maritime Day theme for 2010, in the preparation and delivery of which the collaboration of all stakeholders (States, organizations and individuals) would be welcome and much appreciated:

- Launch “2010: Year of the Seafarer” in co-operation with ISF and ITF: a special event on the occasion of the 41st session of the Sub-Committee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping with further, similar events on the occasion of IMO seminars and workshops
- Inspire a new generation of seafarers: continued promotion of careers at sea through the “Go to Sea!” campaign activities
- Media activities relating to seafarers: interviews, articles, press briefings, poster display, leaflets, IMO website
- Seafarer welfare activities: promotion of seafarer training and welfare throughout 2010 during IMO missions and visits
- IMO Secretary-General’s message to seafarers on the occasion of the World Maritime Day
- Highlight the important role of the seafarer in our daily lives through IMO seminars and other events across the world
- Honour the seafarers at appropriate/relevant occasions in different countries (including promotion of International Seafarer Welfare awards by the International Committee on Seafarers’ Welfare (ICSW))
- Photo documentary on the lives of seafarers (narrative and photo exhibition on everyday lives of seafarers and their key role in world trade as well as in the daily lives of civil society all round the world)





IMO is the United Nations specialized agency, with 169 Member States, that develops and adopts global regulations on safety, security and the prevention and control of marine pollution from ships. Its most important global treaties include the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), and the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), which sets the international standards of competency for all seafarers.

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