

European Maritime Safety Agency

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

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Content

What's the IMO?

- Legal Basis, membership and objective
- Structure
- Working procedures
- Instruments



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Legal basis

UN specialised Agency for shipping

Convention adopted in 1948, entered into force in 1958

Membership

170 Member States + 3 associated Members (e.g., Hong Kong)

In principle opened to all States

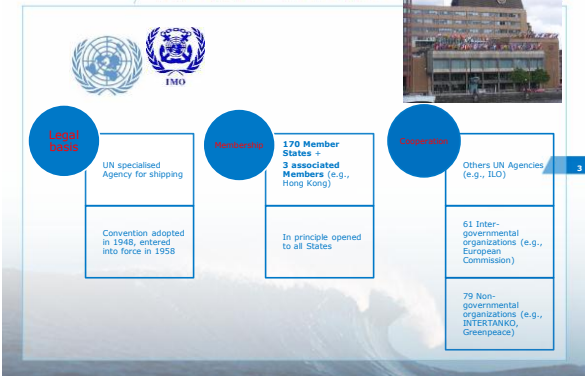
Cooperation

Others UN Agencies (e.g., ILO)

61 Inter-governmental organizations (e.g., European Commission)

79 Non-governmental organizations (e.g., INTERPANKO, Greenpeace)

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Objectives

“Safe, secure and efficient shipping on clean oceans”



To provide **machinery for cooperation** among governments in the field of governmental regulation and practices relating to technical matters of all kinds affecting **shipping engaged in international trade**



To encourage and facilitate the general adoption of the **highest practicable standards in matters concerning maritime safety, efficiency of navigation and prevention and control of marine pollution from ships**



+ Security (ISPS Code)

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IMO Organisation



Secretary-General: Koji Sekimizu



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Staff: < 300
mainly translation



Budget : ~ £ 30 M/year



Contribution: mostly tonnage-based (e.g., Panama 19+ %)



Location: London, Albert Embankment

IMO structure



Council

Assembly

Maritime Safety Committee (MSC)

Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC)

Legal Committee (LEG)

Technical Co-operation Committee (TC)

Facilitation Committee (FAL)

Sub-committees



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IMO structure

IMO Sub-Committees

- Bulk Liquid and gases (BLG)
- Carriage of Dangerous Good, Solid Cargoes and Containers (DSC)
- Fire Protection (FP)
- Radio-communications and search and rescue (COMSAR)
- Safety of Navigation (NAV)
- Ship design and Equipment (DE)
- Stability and Load lines and Fishing Vessels Safety (SLF)
- Flag State Implementation (FSI)
- Standards of training and watch-keeping (STW)

MSC

MEPC

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IMO working procedure

Preparation

- Strategic Plan 2012-2017 [Res. A.1037(27)]
- High Level Action Plan 2012-2013 [Res. A.1037(27)]

A.27/Rev.10/17
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Annex
**STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE ORGANIZATION
FOR THE SIX-YEAR PERIOD 2012 TO 2017**

This, the Organization's Strategic Plan, covers the six-year period 2012 to 2017. It comprises four sections:

1. a mission statement;
2. the trends and developments in the shipping and maritime world and the related challenges for the Organization;
3. the strategic directions that the Organization wishes to take over the period; and
4. a series of performance indicators.

A.1037/Rev.10/13
Original: English

Resolution A.1038(27)
Adopted on 10 November 2011
(Agreed text)

**HIGH-LEVEL ACTION PLAN OF THE ORGANIZATION AND PRIORITIES
FOR THE SIX-YEAR PERIOD**

THE ASSEMBLY:

RECALLING that the Assembly, composed in Resolution A.1038(27) concerning coordination of the work of the Committee for the Control of the Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, Rail, Inland Waterways and Sea and the International Maritime Organization and related matters;

RECALLING ALSO that the Assembly composed a committee;

AND

RESOLVES to:

- 1. establish an inter-methods and organization of work in Committee and their subsidiary committees of the Organization in 2012;
- 2. establish a working group of the Organization in 2012;
- 3. establish a working group of the Organization in 2012;
- 4. establish a working group of the Organization in 2012;

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IMO working procedure Submissions

Preparation

- Member States
- Governmental organisations
- Non-governmental organisations

Then given to competent (S-)C'tee for discussion

Deadlines

- Bulky (>6):** 13 weeks
- Non-bulky:** 9 weeks
- Commenting:** 7 weeks

New work programme items

- Member States only
- 13 weeks deadline
- Strict requirements (e.g., justification)

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IMO working procedures

Meetings

Lasts one week (MSC 1 1/2 weeks)

- Starts with plenary session on Monday
- Introduction of submissions by proponents
- General discussion in plenary (in 6 languages)
- Set ToR for Working Groups (max 3)
- Developed text in Drafting group (max 2)
- Detailed discussion in WGs (in English)

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IMO working procedures

Meetings

- Plenary continues with lesser items
- WG's produce report by Wednesday evening
- Translated (in 3 working languages)
- Approval in plenary session on Thursday/Friday
- Finalize (Sub-)Committee report on Friday

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IMO working procedures

Meetings

- Continue work in the Correspondence groups
- Sometimes Intersessional WG meetings
- Decisions by consensus
- Final Approval by Committee and Assembly

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IMO working procedures

Meetings

Participation	Sub-Committee	Committee
Participants	150-300	400-700
Member States	60-90	60-90
IGOs/NGOs	20-40	30-50

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IMO working procedures



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IMO instruments

50+ Conventions and Protocols

Adopted by a Diplomatic Conference



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Entry into force after sufficient ratifications by:

- X Member States with Y% of the world tonnage
- Ratification requires national (implementation) legislation in many Countries
- Takes many years (some to never)

IMO instruments

1000+ Resolutions
(Assembly, MSC, MEPC)



Codes, Guidelines, recommended practices

Supplementing mandatory instruments, ensuring unified interpretation and assisting national administrations in the implementation

Codes and guidelines often made mandatory through a Convention

IMO Res A.911(22) useful guidance for establishing if an IMO document is mandatory or recommended

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IMO instruments

Principal mandatory Codes

Title	Resolution	Convention Reference
International Safety Management (ISM) Code	Resolution A.741(18)	SOLAS Chapter IX
International Ship and Port facility Security (ISPS) Code	Resolution 2 of the Conference of Contracting Governments to the SOLAS (12 December 2002)	SOLAS Chapter XI-2
Casualty Investigation Code	Resolution MSC.255(84)	SOLAS Chapter XI-I Reg.6
High Speed Craft (HSC) Code	Resolution MSC. 97(73)	SOLAS Chapter X
International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code	Resolution MSC.122(75)	SOLAS Chapter VII Reg.3



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Enforcement



Flag States



Port States (check certificates + inspection)



'no favourable treatment' clause



Growing IMO involvement (e.g., VIMSAS)

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ANY QUESTION?

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