

**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**2 June 2016 [Singapore]**

**SSA PRESIDENT ESBEN POULSSON ELECTED AS ICS CHAIRMAN**

The President of the Singapore Shipping Association (SSA) Mr Esben Poulsson has been elected as the new Chairman of the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS).

Mr Poulsson was elected at the ICS Annual General Meeting in Tokyo today (2 June). He takes over from Mr Masamichi Morooka, who has stood down after four years in office.

Speaking about his new role Mr Poulsson expressed his honour at being elected as the next ICS Chairman.

He said: "Rather than viewing this as a personal achievement, I believe my election is more a reflection of Singapore's stature as a respected flag state and major international maritime centre.

"International engagement and outreach has been, and remains, very much part of the SSA strategy, as approved by this and the previous Council, and is something for which we sense widespread membership support." It is status quo at the Association with Mr Poulsson remaining as President of the SSA and assisted by Vice Presidents Ms Lisa Teo and Mr Tan Chin Hee, at least until the end of his current term in June 2017.

As ICS Chairman, Mr Poulsson identified two main challenges that he will focus on: "The first is working with IMO Member States to make further progress addressing international shipping's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, including our proposal that IMO should develop an 'Intended IMO Determined Contribution' for reducing the sector's CO<sub>2</sub>, similar to the commitments already made by governments as part of the COP21 Paris Agreement.

"But even more pressing, from an industry perspective, is making sure we are ready for the almost certain entry in force of the IMO Ballast Water Management Convention, and engaging with governments, especially the United States, to overcome some remaining but really serious implementation problems," he said.

He added: "I take this new responsibility very seriously and at the top of my agenda will be a determination to ensure that the ICS continues to represent the view of the entire shipping industry. ICS has put in a lot of effort to give due recognition to our industry's achievements and its critical contribution to the sustainable development of the world economy – and that is something I will continue to actively articulate."

ICS is the principal international trade association for shipowners, with a membership comprising national shipowners' associations from 37 countries representing all sectors and trades and over 80% of the world merchant fleet.

Mr Poulsson will be supported in his important new role by four ICS Vice Chairmen: Mr John C. Lyras (Greece), Mrs Karin Orsel (Netherlands), Mr Mark Martecchini (Liberia) and Mr Gerardo Borromeo (Philippines).

A photograph of Mr Poulsson and a short biography can be found on [SSA's website](#).

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**About the Singapore Shipping Association (SSA)**

The Singapore Shipping Association (SSA) represents a wide spectrum of shipping companies and other businesses allied to the shipping industry. It is a national trade association formed in 1985 to serve and promote the interests of its members and to enhance the competitiveness of Singapore as an International Maritime Centre.

To achieve its objectives, the SSA plays an active role in promoting the interests of shipping in Singapore and internationally, and co-operates with other regional and international shipping organisations to protect the marine environment and promote freedom and safety at sea. Currently SSA represents some 470 member companies; comprising shipowners and operators, ship managers, ship agents and other ancillary companies such as shipbrokers, classification societies, marine insurers, bunker suppliers, maritime lawyers, and shipping bankers amongst others.

[www.ssa.org.sg](http://www.ssa.org.sg)