

### **3rd Marine Fuels Committee Meeting Summary**

In the third Marine Fuels committee meeting, the Chairman welcomed our guest speakers Dr. Stavros Karamperidis and Mr Mohamed Shaihan Lafir from the Maritime Transport Research Group of Plymouth Business School to share more on the UK -Singapore Shipping Green Corridor which gave an overview background on their constant engagement with the industry locally, nationally and internationally and to achieve through innovative research in both digitalization and decarbonization. Followed by, a GCMD presentation by Dr La who shared their work on the assurance framework for drop-in marine green fuels – biofuels.

Dr. Prapisala Thepsithar from GCMD shared a comprehensive assurance framework that expedites the widespread adoption of drop-in green fuels, covering every stage of the supply chain to ensure sustainability and minimize environmental impact. Ranging from production and traceability to environmental focus and consumer information, the initiatives aim to foster a sustainable and responsible approach to fuel consumption in support of a greener and more environmentally conscious future.

The chair updated the SSA proposal for the Mass Flow Meter and a new guideline for bunker quality to MPA which suggested extending the meter verification period to two years instead of the yearly inspection and fresh testing requirements. The Chair shared similar sentiments from members' feedback and the collaborative approach seeks to facilitate a smoother implementation of any modifications and promote a shared understanding of the evolving landscape. It reflects a commitment to transparency and cooperative decision-making, fostering an environment where industry players and regulators work hand in hand to adapt to these changing requirements.

The chair discussed the ongoing work for the digital bunkering workgroup, nearing finalization for dissemination to SSA members, and highlighted the concerns related to user adoption, technical issues, connectivity, and commercial challenges in the eBDN. These concerns are related to user adoption and technical issues, particularly those associated with connectivity including security considerations.

The chair also highlighted the ongoing progress of a survey focusing on Marine Fuels. The survey involves reaching out to ship owners to gather input. The survey will cover critical aspects such as quantity, fuel quality, and the exploration of alternative fuel options. Captain Rahul shared the new standards on SS660 which was brought up three years ago and sought an SSA channel trajectory to reach out to various terminal players. The discussion was relatively shared on a general note for the challenges that were approached to oil and gas industry players back then.

The Secretariat shared with the members the bunker dispute data reported from Jan 2023 to Jan 2024. A summary record was shared focusing on reviewing data related to bunker disputes, particularly in terms of quantity and quality. Certain disputes currently take place outside SSA boundaries which was not reflected in the data. Capt Rahul mentioned in quality disputes that approximately 2 to 3% of fuel specifications have not changed in the last 10 years based on tests reported in Singapore. The meeting concluded with the announcement of the schedule for the SSA Marine Fuels Committee Meeting in 2024.

Singapore, 27th February 2024.

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