

5th Services Committee Meeting Summary

Chairman, Mr Lakhbir Singh, opened the meeting with greetings and introductions. The quorum was met. Mr Lakhbir provided a brief overview of the agenda and introduced the invited speakers for the meeting. The minutes from the 4th Services Committee Meeting were then adopted without further comments.

Mr. Astra Desita of PT. Batam Mitra Suplindo presented on the Nipa Transit Anchorage Area, located southwest of Singapore and covering 5.5 million square meters, divided into government-managed Zone G and privately operated Zone T. He detailed their 20 years of ship-to-ship transfer services, including recent permits for floating storage units and streamlined online customs and quarantine processes. Nipa Anchorage benefits from robust safety measures, including Navy patrols and a nearby naval base for emergency response. Mr. Astra emphasized on their competitive pricing, strategic location, and efficient service operations.

Ms. Lee Yin Mui from ReCAAP ISC presented on partnering with the maritime community. She outlined RECAAP ISC's mission to enhance maritime security through regional cooperation, information sharing, and capacity building since its establishment in the late 1990s. The organization, expanding from 14 to 21 member countries with Greece joining soon and France interested, works with the IMO, Interpol, and UNODC. RECAAP ISC offers a 24/7 secure web-based platform, maintains national focal points, and organizes training events. Maritime incidents have decreased by 23% this year, with fewer incidents reported in key areas and a reduced threat level for crew abductions. Tools include a data fusion system, an interactive incident map, and a user-friendly mobile app for reporting and accessing information.

Mr. Lakhbir Singh highlighted the importance of the MPA-SSA Ops Meeting as a key platform for SSA members to address concerns with MPA and other authorities. He urged the committee to submit their feedback to the form sent by the secretariat on July 31st, to help SSA gather input for the upcoming meeting.

Mr. Jimmy Koh from PSA Marine presented on monthly pilotage service levels. He reported that PSA Marine consistently maintains a service level above 90% with a 6-hour advance notice. In July, service levels fluctuated due to varying daily job requests, with a capacity of up to 500 jobs per day and an average pilot productivity of 3 to 4 jobs daily. He emphasized the need for timely pilot bookings and noted that delays often result from terminal operations and barge arrivals, which PSA Marine is working to address. Investment in training includes 27 new pilots this year and 12 more planned for October. Mr. Jimmy advised agents to book pilots early to ensure service quality and minimize disruptions, highlighting PSA Marine's commitment to improving operational efficiency while maintaining safety and standards.

Mr. Walter Lin from Jurong Port Facility Management outlined several key updates: Lighting improvements with LED floodlights and a high mast at Y8 are enhancing safety, while upgrades to toilets and rest areas are underway. A phased concrete paving plan includes Y9A and surrounding driveways, with further phases in FY 25 and FY 26. Operations will transition from MSW to J1's Basin Area by 2027, with construction starting in 2025. Additionally, the Banker Guarantee Security Deposit calculation now uses the last 12 months of transactions and the median value to provide a fairer assessment and potentially lower costs for customers.

The committee highlighted recent challenges faced in getting a health inspector to inspect the vessel for issuing vessel sanitation certificates, similar to issues previously raised during the NEA's presentation at the 3rd Services Committee Meeting. The secretariats have been assigned to consult with NEA to better understand and resolve these concerns.

Singapore, 29th August 2024
