



COUNCIL – 99th session

C 99/SR.1
30 November 2007
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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIRST MEETING

**held at The Royal Lancaster Hotel, Lancaster Terrace, London W2 2TY
on Friday, 30 November 2007 at 9.30 a.m.**

Chairman: Mr. J. FRANSON (Sweden)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. NTULI (South Africa)
Secretary-General: Mr. E. E. MITROPOULOS

A list of participants is given in document C 99/INF.1.

N.B. Corrections to the summary record should be submitted in writing, preferably on a copy of the summary record, to the Conference Division, IMO Secretariat, 4 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR not later than 18 April 2008.

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CONTENTS

	Page
Opening of the session	3
Agenda item 1 – Election of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman	3
Invitation to non-Members of the Council to attend the session	4
Agenda item 2 – Adoption of the agenda	4
Agenda item 3 – Contract of the Secretary-General	4
Agenda item 4 – Date and place of the next session of the Council	5
Closure of the session	5

OPENING OF THE SESSION

The SECRETARY-GENERAL declared open the ninety-ninth session of the Council in its new composition and welcomed and congratulated the delegations of re-elected Members and new Members (Jamaica, New Zealand and Nigeria) on their appointment.

AGENDA ITEM 1 – ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (C 99/1)

The SECRETARY-GENERAL recalled that rule 19 of the Council's Rules of Procedure provided that it must elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among the representatives of its Members; he invited nominations for the post of chairman.

Mr. CHEOK HONG (Singapore) proposed that Mr. Franson (Sweden) should be re-elected. He was a former director of maritime safety at the Swedish Maritime Administration and he had impeccable IMO credentials, having represented Sweden at many of its meetings, having chaired the Council for the past two years, having acted as vice-chairman of the FSI Sub-Committee, and having chaired Committee 1 at the Assembly on two occasions. He had also been a highly efficient president (secretary) of the 2002 conference held to amend the SOLAS Convention. During the past two years as chairman of the Council, he had steered the discussions through some difficult times with great aplomb, and always in a timely and efficient manner.

Mr. DAVENA (Brazil) seconded that proposal, adding that in the past two years Mr. Franson had displayed the full range of skills required for the post of chairman.

The representatives of Greece, South Africa, Canada and Panama supported the proposal of Singapore.

At the invitation of the Secretary-General, Mr. Franson (Sweden) was re-elected chairman by acclamation.

Mr. Franson took the chair.

The CHAIRMAN said he was honoured by the trust the Council had placed in him, and he hoped to live up to that trust. He invited nominations for the post of vice-chairman.

Mr. LANTZ (United States) proposed that Mr. Ntuli (South Africa) should be re-elected. He had been alternate Permanent Representative of South Africa to IMO since 2004, having previously held high office at his country's ministry of transport and having headed its maritime transport regulation authority and SAR organization. From 2001 onwards he had participated in many meetings of the Council, the MSC and the TCC. Over the past two years, in addition to his work as vice-chairman of the Council he had chaired the *ad hoc* Working Group on the Organization's Strategic Plan and the Working Group on Risk Review, Management and Reporting.

Mr. MOKHTAR (Egypt) seconded that proposal, adding that Mr. Ntuli brought unusual patience and sensitivity to all his work in the domestic and international arenas.

The representatives of France, Turkey, India, Mexico and the Bahamas supported the proposal of the United States.

At the invitation of the chairman, Mr. Ntuli (South Africa) was re-elected vice-chairman by acclamation.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN thanked all those who had supported his re-election, which was an honour to him and his country.

INVITATION TO NON-MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL TO ATTEND THE SESSION

The CHAIRMAN suggested that, in compliance with article 20 of the IMO Convention and rule 4 of the Council's Rules of Procedure, those Members of the Organization not members of the Council and which had expressed the wish to participate in its deliberations should be invited to attend the meeting as observers.

It was so decided.

ITEM 2 – ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda contained in document C 99/2 was adopted.

ITEM 3 – CONTRACT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The CHAIRMAN invited the members of the Secretariat present to leave the room, with the exception of the Director of Administration. He recalled that the recently concluded Assembly had decided to reappoint Mr. Mitropoulos as Secretary-General of the Organization for a further final term of four years.

Noting that, according to the established practice, the contract had the same format as that presented and signed in 2003, he invited the Council to approve the contract of Mr. Efthimios E. Mitropoulos as Secretary-General of the Organization for a further four years, with effect from 1 January 2008, and to give its consent to his signing of the contract on its behalf.

It was so decided.

The SECRETARY-GENERAL congratulated the Council chairman and vice-chairman on their re-election.

He assured the Council of his determination to best serve its interests by representing IMO with pride and decency, responding to the expectations of the Organization and the wider maritime community, and striving to win the hearts and minds of all those with whom he would be interacting at home and abroad. Such exchanges would be of immense benefit in moving the maritime agenda forward and in responding to environmental concerns. He called on Council Members to work with him to ensure that IMO continued to reflect rapidly changing global circumstances.

**AGENDA ITEM 4 – DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION OF THE COUNCIL
(C 99/4)**

The SECRETARY-GENERAL said that taking into account past practice, as well as the programme of meetings of the Organization for 2008, it was proposed that the 100th session of the Council should be held at the headquarters of the Organization from 16 to 20 June 2008. He drew the Council's attention to document C 98/22(a) containing recommendations for celebrations to mark IMO's sixtieth anniversary and the 100th session of the Council, which had been put before the Council at its ninety-eighth session.

The CHAIRMAN invited the Council to hold its 100th session at IMO headquarters from 16 to 20 June 2008.

It was so decided.

Mr. MARZBAN (Islamic Republic of Iran, observer) assured the Council that the Republic of Iran would continue to play an active role in all IMO's activities in the fulfilment of its mandate of fostering efficient shipping on clean oceans.

In drawing attention to the recent collision between two ships off the coast of Iran when local search and rescue teams had successfully rescued all 29 crew members before both ships sank, he placed emphasis on the close connection between the successful outcome and the priority status accorded by his country to the development and implementation of all SOLAS instruments.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

The CHAIRMAN, after expressing appreciation to the Government of the United Kingdom for its hospitality in hosting the current sessions of IMO meetings, declared the session closed.

The meeting rose at 10.10 a.m.