

**35th Annual General Assembly of the
International Federation of Shipmasters' Associations
(IFSMA)**

**Held at the Windsor Barra Hotel,
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 7 - 8 May 2009**

Resolutions

IFSMA RES 1/2009 (AGA 35) ENCLOSED SPACES

On the occasion of the 35th AGA, the delegates of IFSMA assembled in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil noted with great concern the continuous trend of fatalities and injuries among seafarers in relationship with enclosed spaces. Moreover delegates noted with concern how the principle and the failure of the regulatory regime with respect to enclosed spaces at the international and national levels could criminalise Masters.

IFSMA calls upon the relevant international and national bodies to take appropriate action to ensure mandatory carriage of remote O₂ analysing equipment on all vessels above 500 gross tons.

IFSMA further calls upon mandatory education and training in the use of remote O₂ analysing equipment.

IFSMA furthermore calls for the re-evaluation of all onboard safety equipment and safety procedures so they are fit for purpose and are compatible with use on board vessels.

IFSMA RES 2/2009 (AGA 35) E-NAVIGATION

On the occasion of the 35th AGA, the delegates of IFSMA assembled in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil noted the effects and consequences of the further introduction of e-Navigation into shipboard operations.

IFSMA will continue to actively monitor and participate in discussions in order to ensure that e-navigation is going to positively assist the workload of the master and crew.

Moreover, in this process IFSMA will emphasise the importance of defining the roles and responsibilities of all parties involved in e-navigation.

IFSMA recommends that before the implementation of e-navigation, the STW Sub-Committee must review the syllabi for certificates of competency, adding new requirements and also identifying redundant subjects which must be amended, corrected or removed.

IFSMA RES 3/2009 (AGA 35) REGULAR REVISIONS OF STCW

On the occasion of the 35th AGA, the delegates of IFSMA assembled in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil noted that the fast changes of technology are asking for a different approach to reviewing and amending the STCW Convention.

IFSMA therefore urges the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) to change its present approach with regard to amending the STCW Convention by introducing any amendments only once within a five year period.

IFSMA furthermore calls upon IMO to review as necessary the STCW Convention regularly every ten years.

IFSMA RES 4/2009 (AGA 35) HOURS OF WORK AND REST

On the occasion of the 35th AGA, the delegates of IFSMA assembled in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil noted with great concern the discussion in the present STCW Revision that could lead to the introduction of a maximum period of ninety-six uninterrupted hours of work.

IFSMA urges all IMO Member States to include in this discussion the well-established stipulation of hours of work and rest as mentioned in the STCW-Code, Chapter 8 and not to deviate from this stipulation.

IFSMA RES 5/2009 (AGA 35) IMO VOTING PROCEDURES

On the occasion of the 35th AGA, the delegates of IFSMA assembled in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil noted with great concern the recent developments in IMO voting procedures.

IFSMA urges the IMO to end the process of allowing the EU to block-vote with 27 votes without all 27 EU Member States being present at the meetings.

IFSMA RES 6/2009 (AGA 35) MARITIME RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

On the occasion of the 35th AGA, the delegates of IFSMA assembled in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil noted that the introduction of a new resource management concept into the maritime industry could effectively contribute to the achievement of quality shipping.

IFSMA calls upon the Member States of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) to promote the establishment of a No-Blame Culture by introducing mandatory Maritime Resource Management Training in Part A of the STCW Code.