

Open letter to IMO Member States supporting mandatory speed measure to reduce shipping emissions

30/April/2019

Effectively addressing climate change is possibly the greatest challenge of our time. In 2015 world governments agreed in Paris that global temperature rise must be limited to well below 2°C, while aiming for 1.5°C compared to pre-industrial levels. A recent IPCC 1.5° Special Report also recommended “deep emissions reductions” to achieve these temperature goals.

In responding to this global challenge, member states of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) agreed in April 2018 on an Initial GHG Strategy for international shipping. The strategy calls for shipping emissions to peak as soon as possible, for shipping’s carbon intensity to be reduced by at least 40% by 2030 and for total emissions to be cut by at least 50% by 2050 compared to 2008, while aiming for full decarbonisation. To do so, new operational measures will need to be implemented for both the existing fleet and new ships and immediate reductions achieved by 2023.

Since the April 2018 agreement several candidate measures have been proposed including speed regulation for all ships. Recent history shows that reducing the global fleet’s operational speed after the 2008 economic crash led to dramatic reductions in GHG emissions. This speaks to the real-world effectiveness of a potential prescriptive speed measure in helping achieve reduction targets. However, recent studies also suggest that ships are speeding up again as global demand recovers. Should this trend continue, any GHG gains from slow steaming over recent years will disappear.

The signatories to this letter unite in stressing the urgent need for shipping to make its appropriate contribution to addressing climate change. As the initial step we express our strong support for the IMO implementing mandatory regulation of global ship speeds differentiated across ship type and size categories. Our preference would be to set maximum annual average speeds for container ships, and maximum absolute speeds for the remaining ship types, which take account of minimum speed requirements. Such a regulation should be implemented as soon as possible and the obligation for compliance should be placed both on shipowners and operators, including charterers.

We call on all Parties at the forthcoming MEPC74 to support this move.

SIGNATORIES

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(Please note that this document does not legally bind the signatories, however indicates their initial support of the proposed concept)

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7. AIMS SHIPPING CORPORATION
8. ALASSIA NEWSHIPS MANAGEMENT INC.
9. ALEXANDER OETKER SCHIFFFAHRT, HAMBURG
10. ALMI MARINE MANAGEMENT S.A.
11. ALMI TANKERS S.A.
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14. APOLLONIA LINES S.A.
15. ARKLOW SHIPPING LIMITED
16. ARMINTER S.A.M, MONACO
17. ASIATIC LLOYD SHIIPING PTE LTD, SINGAPORE
18. ASTRA SHIPMANAGEMENT INC.
19. ATLANTIC LLOYD GMBH, HAMBURG
20. AWILCO LNG,
21. BESIKTAS SHIPPING GROUP, TURKEY
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25. C TRANSPORT MARITIME S.A.M. MONACO
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33. DELTA TANKERS LTD
34. DIANA SHIPPING SERVICES LTD
35. DIANA WILHELMSSEN MANAGEMENT LIMITED (DWM)
36. DYNACOM TANKERS MANAGEMENT LTD
37. DYNAGAS LTD
38. EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN MARITIME LTD
39. EFINAV COMPANY LTD
40. ELEMENT SHIPMANAGEMENT S.A.
41. EMPIRE BULKERS LTD
42. EMPROS LINES SHIPPING CO.
43. ENTERPRISES SHIPPING & TRADING S.A.
44. EURONAV SHIP MANAGEMENT LTD
45. EUROTANKERS INC.
46. F. LAEISZ GROUP, HAMBURG
47. GLOBAL CARRIERS LTD
48. GOLDEN ENERGY MANAGEMENT S.A.
49. GOLDENPORT MARINE SERVICES INC./ GOLDENPORT SHIPMANAGEMENT LTD
50. GOODBULK LTD, MONACO
51. GRECOMAR SHIPPING AGENCY LTD
52. HALKIDON SHIPPING CORPORATION
53. HELLENIC TANKERS CO. LTD
54. HUNTER GROUP ASA
55. HYDROUSSA NAVIGATION LTD
56. INTERUNITY MANAGEMENT CORPORATION
57. INTERUNITY MANAGEMENT SA GMBH, GERMANY
58. IOLCOS HELLENIC MARITIME ENTERPRISES CO. LTD
59. IONIA MANAGEMENT S.A.
60. IONIC SHIPPING (MGT) INC.
61. KYKLADES MARITIME CORPORATION
62. LASKARIDIS SHIPPING CO. LTD
63. LATSCO MARINE MANAGEMENT INC.
64. LMZ SHIPPING S.A.
65. LOAD LINE MARINE S.A.
66. LOUIS DREYFUS ARMATEURS, FRANCE
67. MARINE TRUST LTD
68. MARLA DRY BULK SHIPMANAGEMENT INC.
69. MARLA TANKERS SHIPMANAGEMENT INC.
70. MARMARAS NAVIGATION LTD
71. NAFTOMAR SHIPPING & TRADING CO. LTD

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| 72. NAVIOS MARITIME HOLDINGS INC. | 92. RIVAMAR SRL |
| 73. NEPHELE NAVIGATION COMPANY LIMITED | 93. ROSWELL TANKERS CORPORATION |
| 74. NEW SHIPPING LIMITED | 94. ROXANA SHIPPING S.A. |
| 75. NORDIC HAMBURG SHIPMANAGEMENT
GMBH & CO.KG, HAMBURG | 95. SAFE BULKERS MANAGEMENT LTD |
| 76. OCEANBULK MARITIME S.A. | 96. SAFESHIP MANAGEMENT INC. |
| 77. OCEANGOLD TANKERS INC. | 97. SAFETY MANAGEMENT OVERSEAS S.A. |
| 78. OLYMPIA OCEAN CARRIERS LTD | 98. SEA TRADE HOLDINGS, STAMFORD, U.S.A |
| 79. OMICRON SHIP MANAGEMENT INC. | 99. SEA TRADERS S.A. |
| 80. ORION REEDEREI GMBH & CO. KG,
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| 81. ÖSTERREICHISCHER LLOYD SEEREEDEREI
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| | 112. VEGA REEDEREI GMBH & CO. KG,
HAMBURG |
| | 113. WORLD TANKERS MANAGEMENT |

Environmental groups

1. Clean Shipping Coalition (CSC)
2. AirClim
3. European Federation for Transport and Environment (T&E)
4. Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA)
5. Greenpeace International
6. Pacific Environment (PE)
7. Seas at Risk
8. Stichting De Noordzee (North Sea Foundation)
9. World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

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