

ASA SPC

ASA Shipping Policy Committee

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ASA
Asian Shipowners' Association

18 November 2025, Hong Kong

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release 39th Interim Meeting ASA Shipping Policy Committee (SPC)

Asian Shipowners' Association (ASA) held the 39th Interim Meeting of Shipping Policy Committee (SPC) in Hong Kong on 18 November during Hong Kong Maritime Week. Around 30 participants mainly from ASEAN, China, Cook Islands, Hong Kong, Japan and South Korea joined the meeting in person or online.

Following the last meeting in Jakarta in May 2025, SPC members reiterated that it is important to support the principles of free trade, fair competition and market access amid intensified global economic conflicts, the rise of protectionism and unilateralism.

Given that the unfair imposition of port fees would significantly increase transportation costs for vessels trading to the countries concerned, thereby raising inflation and ultimately burdening consumers in the countries, Capt. Masanori Kato, Chair of the SPC, stated, *"it is essential that Asian shipowners continue to encourage governments to uphold a free and fair competitive shipping market and to maintain a rules-based global framework that ensures a level playing field."*

For details on its meeting summary and the SPC Statements adopted, please refer to:

- ANNEX A: Meeting Summary of the 39th Interim Meeting of the Asian Shipowners' Association (ASA) Shipping Policy Committee (SPC)

- ANNEX B: Attendance List



Pictures:

SPC delegates attending the 39th Interim Meeting in person

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Editor's Note:

The ASA is a voluntary organisation of the shipowners' associations from ASEAN, China, Cook Islands, Hong Kong, Japan and Korea, representing around 50% of the world merchant fleet.*

**The Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations (FASA) consists of associations from Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.*

The ASA provides a major platform for Asian shipowners to build consensus on issues of concern to both the Asian and global maritime industries, which is also crucial to world trade, its supply chains and the prosperity of major Asian trading partners.

Between ASA AGM meetings, the ongoing work is carried out by five Standing

Committees:

The Seafarers Committee (SC), the Ship Insurance and Liability Committee (SILC), the Safe Navigation and Environment Committee (SNEC), the Shipping Policy Committee (SPC), and the Ship Recycling Committee (SRC).