

Signing of MOU between ASA, ECSA and ICS during the Singapore Maritime Week 2019

Asian Shipowners' Association (ASA), European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA) and International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) are the principal global and regional associations, representing shipowners and operators with those global and regional organisations, institutions, regulators and other bodies which impact and affect the interests of international shipping.

The three associations together comprise broad memberships of the national shipowners' associations located in around 50 countries and territories and encompass collectively more than 90% of the world's merchant tonnage. They also represent all sectors and trades, and their respective memberships of national shipowners' associations, through which structures they can uniquely and legitimately claim to speak for the significant majority of the international shipping.

Recognising the special relationship which their member national shipowners' associations enjoy with their governments and maritime administrations, the three associations reaffirm their *raison d'être* to serve as advocates for the international shipping industry and agree to enhance and build upon their existing close liaison relationships, with a view to maintaining and further improving a strong and coherent voice for the global shipping industry.

The three associations will come together to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) during the Singapore Maritime Week on 8 April 2019. The MOU signing will take place during the IALA-MPA E-Navigation Conference which starts on Monday, 8 April 2019 in the morning. Mr Bhumindr Harinsuit, our 28th ASA Chairman, will represent ASA to sign this MOU together with our Guest-of-Honour, Dr Lam Pin Min, Singapore Senior Minister of State, as the witness for this MOU signing.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will apply from the date of signature until termination by any of the three associations on the giving of one month's written notice to the other associations. Its sole purpose is to provide a framework for closer cooperation between the three associations and it is not intended to cover every detail of such cooperation. As part of the three associations' mutual commitment, ASA, ECSA and ICS will act in accordance with the spirit and intent of this MOU, even though none of them intends that it be legally binding.