



7TH DIGITAL@SEA ASIA-PACIFIC 2023 CONFERENCE

Seoul, Republic of Korea, 12 to 13 September

WORKSHOP ON ENHANCING THE SAFETY OF NAVIGATION

by Digital Means - Seoul, Republic of Korea, 14 to 15 September

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The 7th Digital@Sea Asia-Pacific Conference was held in The Ambassador Seoul - A Pullman Hotel from 12 to 13 September and was co-organized by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea, IALA, and DMA (Danish Maritime Agency). The Conference was followed by a "Workshop on Enhancing the Safety of Navigation by Digital Means", from 14 to 15 September. The IHO Secretariat was represented by Director Luigi Sinapi, who participated at the 7th Digital@Sea Asia-Pacific Conference, and Assistant Director Leonel Manteigas, who participated at the workshop.



Digital@Sea Asia Pacific Conference and speakers





Under the theme of "The Present and The future of The Maritime Digital Industry", the Conference served as a venue to share maritime digital technology and discuss cooperation among Europe, North America, and the Asia-Pacific countries, and was joined by renowned experts, faculties, and stakeholders in the international maritime digital sector to share new policies and cutting-edge technologies and discuss cooperation for the shared goal of maritime digitalization. The Conference was opened by Mr. CHO Seung-hwan, Minister of Oceans and Fisheries, Republic of Korea, who highlighted as the importance of digital transportation, the maritime digital technology and cooperation amongst the international organizations are the keys to make the oceans closer and more connected. Congratulatory remarks from the Chairman of the Agriculture, Food, Rural Affairs, Ocean & Fisheries Committee of the National Assembly, ROK, IMO Secretary General, IALA Secretary General, DMA Director General and IHO Director completed the opening ceremony.



Group photo of the speakers at the Digital@Sea Asia Pacific Conference

The Conference comprised six sessions, including "Growth of the global maritime digital market", "Directions of new maritime digital service", and "Global GHG reduction trends and the role of Maritime Digitalization". Under the session "Directions of new maritime digital service", IHO Director Luigi Sinapi presented on "The Universal Hydrographic Data Model S-100: S-100 and S-200 products development", highlighting on the S-100 developments with a focus on the future IHO and IALA products and services, and the transition from S-57 to S-101, following the inclusion of S-100 as a valid base technology in ECDIS at the IMO MSC 106 meeting in November 2022.







IHO Director Luigi Sinapi presenting at the session "Directions of new maritime digital service"

The "Workshop on Enhancing Safety of Navigation by Digital Means" was organized by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea, IALA, IMO and IHO having as objective facilitate the development and implementation of digital services which can enhance maritime safety and marine environment protection in Asia.

The agenda of the workshop comprised eight sessions. On the first session were received welcome addresses from: Mr. Jong-uk Hong, Director of Maritime Affairs and Safety Policy Bureau, Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, (MOF); Mr. B. Sıtkı Ustaoğlu, Head, Asia and Pacific Section, Technical Cooperation Division, IMO; IHO Assistant Director Leonel Manteigas; and Mr. Omar Eriksson, Deputy Secretary-General IALA.



Participants of the "Workshop on Enhancing Safety of Navigation by Digital Means"





On the second Session dedicated to the "Update from International Organizations", Assistant Director Leonel Manteigas delivered a presentation on the topic "IHO Capacity building contribute to the safety of navigation", providing an overview of the IHO, the focus of the hydrography and its importance for the safety on navigation, the transition from S-57 to the S-100 compliant products and respective benefits, and the importance of the partnership between international organizations for the Capacity Building.

Additionally, there were sessions dedicated to "Sharing Digital Experiences", "Digitalization projects/initiatives worldwide" and "Other Developments" the final session was chaired by IHO Assistant Director Leonel Manteigas. Two important sessions were dedicated to the topic "Digitalization in participating countries" with presentations from Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam and Japan.



IHO Assistant Director Leonel Manteigas presenting at the session "Update from International Organizations"

At the end of the Workshop the group agreed to discuss important topics including significant transformations in the areas of Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships, e-Navigation, and S-100 Universal Hydrographic Data Model as a big challenge involving IHO, IMO, IALA, IOC, WMO and others. The Workshop also provided an important opportunity to receive information about the situation, challenges and projects of some Countries and offered a relevant opportunity for networking. The workshop was closed by the representatives of IALA, IHO, IMO and Republic of Korea (MOF).