



TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION  
COMMITTEE  
55th session  
Agenda item 13

TC 55/13  
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## REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE ON ITS FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION

### 1 GENERAL

#### Introduction

1.1 The Technical Co-operation Committee held its fifty-fifth session from 14 to 16 June 2005 under the chairmanship of Mr. Ben Owusu-Mensah (Ghana).

1.2 The session was attended by delegations from the following Member Governments:

ALGERIA	HONDURAS
ANGOLA	INDONESIA
ARGENTINA	IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)
BAHAMAS	ITALY
BANGLADESH	JAPAN
BELIZE	KENYA
BENIN	LIBERIA
BOLIVIA	LITHUANIA
BRAZIL	MALTA
CANADA	MARSHALL ISLANDS
CHILE	MEXICO
CHINA	MOROCCO
CONGO	NETHERLANDS
COTE D'IVOIRE	NIGERIA
CUBA	NORWAY
CYPRUS	PANAMA
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA	PERU
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO	PHILIPPINES
EGYPT	POLAND
FRANCE	REPUBLIC OF KOREA
GERMANY	RUSSIAN FEDERATION
GHANA	SAUDI ARABIA
GREECE	SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO
	SINGAPORE
	SOUTH AFRICA

SPAIN  
SWEDEN  
THAILAND  
TURKEY  
UKRAINE

UNITED KINGDOM  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
URUGUAY  
VANUATU  
VENEZUELA

and the following Associate Member of IMO:

HONG KONG, CHINA

1.3 The session was attended by observers from the following intergovernmental organizations:

INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION (IHO)  
MARITIME ORGANIZATION FOR WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA (MOWCA)  
SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (SPREP)  
PORT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA  
(PMAWCA)

by observers from the following non-governmental organizations:

INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF SHIPPING (ICS)  
OIL COMPANIES INTERNATIONAL MARINE FORUM (OCIMF)  
SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL GAS TANKER AND TERMINAL OPERATORS  
LIMITED (SIGTTO)

**WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY**

### **Secretary-General's Opening Statement**

1.4 At the request of several delegations, the Secretary-General's opening statement was circulated as TC 55/INF.6. The following is a summary of the statement.

1.5 In welcoming delegates to the meeting, the Secretary-General acknowledged the role of the Committee in shaping and monitoring the development and implementation of the Organization's technical co-operation policies and programme and noted that the uniform and effective implementation of the standards developed and adopted by IMO could only be achieved worldwide if countries in need were assisted to do just that.

1.6 The Secretary-General drew attention to the status of implementation of the ITCP over the 2004-2005 period, which reflected a sustained increase in financial delivery against activities implemented through the Secretariat or through partnerships with governments, organizations and programmes. Expenditure had risen from US\$8 million in 2000 to US\$14 million in 2004, marking an overall rate of increase of 67% for that period and reflecting a delivery rate of 77.9% for 2004. Looking ahead to the future, the Secretary-General highlighted three important aspects which would shape the future of technical co-operation: the new ITCP for 2006-2007, comprising seven regional and six global programmes, at an estimated total value of US\$15 million; the Technical Co-operation (TC) Fund programme of activities for the 2006-2007 biennium; and the important question of long-term financing of the ITCP.

1.7 The Secretary-General recalled that new items under the proposed ITCP for the 2006-2007 biennium included capacity-building for the effective participation of developing countries in the successful operation of the voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme; the promotion and enhancement of the safety of non-convention vessels, including small fishing vessels and domestic passenger ferries; and the implementation of the guidelines on ship recycling. He emphasized, in particular, the unique opportunity which the voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme would provide to improve maritime safety and the protection of the marine environment.

1.8 Expressing his concern over the ongoing threat of international terrorism, the Secretary-General stressed the importance of effectively implementing and stringently enforcing the special measures adopted by IMO to enhance maritime security worldwide. He informed the Committee that, since January 2002, 18 regional workshops and 87 national training courses or advisory missions had been organized, resulting in the training of some 3,800 people. Recognizing the need to place the training programme on a self-sustainable footing, the Secretary-General reported that a "Train the Trainer" programme had been launched in September 2004 under which 11 sub-regional courses had been successfully delivered to-date, producing 218 maritime security trainers.

1.9 While recognizing the financial contributions received to-date for the International Maritime Security Trust Fund, the Secretary-General expressed his concern over the disparity between the size of contributions and the high demand for assistance. In light of IMO's leadership role in the implementation of the ISPS Code, the Secretary-General urged Member States to give priority to that aspect of technical co-operation by recognizing the shared responsibility for fund raising, and also invited them to promote this issue in other fora.

1.10 The Secretary-General then turned his attention to the Tsunami tragedy of 2004 which resulted in the loss of over 300,000 lives and incalculable economic cost to the coastal zones of several Indian Ocean countries. IMO had responded immediately with offers of technical assistance related to ensuring the integrity of the region's maritime navigational infrastructure. The establishment of a Tsunami Maritime Disaster Relief Fund in early January 2005 to address the humanitarian aspect raised approximately £90,000, which the Secretary-General donated to Secretary-General Annan in April 2005 with the request that it be used specifically for the restoration of the maritime infrastructure affected and to support the reconstruction of the fishing industry in the region. He also noted that provision to support post-tsunami activities related to promulgation of early warnings, preparedness and response measures and safety of fishing vessels had been included in the ITCP.

1.11 In considering the proposed transfers from the Printing Fund surplus to the TC Fund for the 2006-2007 biennium, the Secretary-General drew attention to the steady decline in the TC Fund reserves, brought about by the implementation of an ever-larger volume of assistance, and to the balance which was forecast to reach a low £1.3 million by December 2007. In this regard he recalled that partnership arrangements were recognized, by means of Assembly resolution A.965, as a cost-effective means of TC delivery, and welcomed the signing of Memoranda of Understanding with two port organizations, the Port Management Association for Eastern and Southern Africa and the Port Management Association of West and Central Africa, to further the regional implementation of the ITCP.

1.12 The Secretary-General announced that the office of the regional coordinator for Eastern and Southern Africa in Nairobi, Kenya had been strengthened and that regional coordinators were now empowered to manage and execute programmes with full financial authority and with

the administrative assistance of UNDP country offices. Nevertheless, despite the evident contribution by the regional coordinators to delivery and resource mobilization, this relatively low-cost programme represented an increasing share of the TC Fund. He reported that the Secretariat had been evaluating the impact of the programme, and that any expansion of, or even the maintenance of the scheme, would inevitably be linked to the long-term financing of the ITCP.

1.13 In closing, the Secretary-General turned to the long-term financing of the ITCP and recalled that the Assembly, by means of resolution A.944, had identified the need to ensure an equitable and sustainable means of funding the ITCP as one of the challenges for IMO. To address the absence of formal, long-term commitments from external donors, the Secretary-General drew attention to proposals for a future strategy which had been formulated by the Secretariat around five precepts:

- .1 ensuring the maintenance of the TC Fund as a core fund;
- .2 maximizing the cost-effectiveness of our delivery mechanism;
- .3 establishing an equitable, sustainable financial mechanism;
- .4 mobilizing external financial and in-kind support through partnerships with Member States, organizations and industry; and
- .5 sharing responsibility for resource mobilization; and invited the Committee to endorse this appeal.

### **Adoption of the Agenda**

1.14 The Committee adopted the agenda as it appeared in document TC 55/1.

## **2 WORK OF OTHER BODIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

2.1 The Committee had before it documents TC 55/2, TC 55/2/Add.1, TC 55/2/Add.2, TC 55/2/Add.3, TC 55/2/1, TC 55/2/1/Corr.1, TC/55/2/2 and TC 55/2/3. Documents TC 55/2 and TC 55/2/Add.1 reported on the outcome of the ninety-second and ninety-third sessions of the Council, the thirty-first session of the Facilitation Committee, the fifty-second session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee, the eighty-ninth session of the Legal Committee, the twenty-sixth Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Convention 1972, the seventy-ninth session of the Maritime Safety Committee and the thirteenth session of the Flag State Implementation Sub-Committee on the report of the Third Workshop for port State control MoU/Agreement Secretaries and Directors of Information Centres. Document TC 55/2/Add.2 highlighted matters of relevance to IMO contained in UN Security Council resolutions 1558 (2004), 1587 (2005) and reports S/2004/469, S/2004/604 and S/2005/153 regarding Somalia.

2.2 The Committee noted the outcome of the consideration by the Council, at its ninety-second session, of the proposals made by TC 54 on technical co-operation performance indicators; these were referred to the Council Working Group on the Organization's Strategic Plan (CWGSP) for consideration. The Council, at its ninety-third session, considered the report of the CWGSP (C 93/5/Add.1) and endorsed the Working Group's recommendations with regard to the Technical Co-operation Committee proposals, as amended by the Group, and referred to in paragraphs 7(a) to (e) of document TC 55/2.

2.3 The Committee noted the outcome of the International Workshop on Flag State Implementation which was held at IMO Headquarters from 2 to 4 March 2005 and expressed its appreciation for the financial support provided by the United Kingdom towards this activity.

2.4 The Committee's attention was drawn to the consideration of the future of the IMO Workshops for PSC MoU/Agreement Secretaries and Directors of Information Centres, which MSC 79 had referred to FSI 13. MSC noted that the FSI Sub-Committee had examined the recommendations of the third IMO Workshop, held in June 2004, and had instructed the Secretariat to prepare, for FSI 14, an analytical paper on the future of the global PSC workshops and requested that it report to MSC 82 on its further consideration of the matter.

2.5 Many delegations indicated that the workshops were very important from two perspectives: firstly, they served to promote harmonization of PSC practices and secondly, they provided capacity-building. The Committee noted that provision had been made in the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme (ITCP) for a Workshop in the 2006-2007 biennium pending consideration of the future of global workshops by FSI and MSC.

2.6 The Committee was informed of the outcome of the ninety-second session of the Council with regard to requests from the news media to attend meetings of the various organs of the Organization, on action taken by the other Committees in this regard and had before it a proposal to amend the Committee's Rules of Procedure.

2.7 The Committee recalled the decision that its meetings should be open to the public and that attendance by the media should be encouraged in order to meet the need to promote awareness of IMO's capacity-building work. The Committee noted that, since its last session, other Committees of IMO had agreed changes to their rules of procedure which needed to be taken into account and that the phrase "open to the public" raised issues of security and access control. Therefore the Committee agreed the following changes to Rule 9 of its Rules of Procedure, which would bring its rules into line with those of the MSC and MEPC:

- “1 The Committee may decide to hold meetings in private or public. In the absence of a decision to hold meetings in public, they shall be held in private. Meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Committee shall be held in private unless the Committee decides otherwise in any particular case.
- 2 Notwithstanding paragraph 1, and in accordance with the Guidelines of the Organization for media access to meetings of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, media may attend meetings of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies unless the Committee decides otherwise. Meetings of the working groups and drafting groups established by the Committee and its subsidiary bodies shall be held in private.”

2.8 The Committee was informed of the outcome of MEPC 52 regarding the establishment of an International Ship Recycling Fund (TC 55/2/Add.3). It noted that MEPC had agreed, in principle, to the need for the establishment of such a Fund to promote the safe and environmentally sound management of ship recycling through the Organization's technical co-operation activities and invited TCC to consider further the arrangements for the establishment of such Fund.

2.9 The delegation of Bangladesh introduced its document TC 55/2/3 containing information on the proposal for the establishment of an International Ship Recycling Fund.

2.10 Many delegations which supported the establishment of a fund pointed out that an international ship recycling fund could be used to assist developing countries. The assistance could be through technical co-operation activities aimed at improving environment and safety levels in ship recycling operations by raising awareness of the safety, health and environmental issues associated with ship recycling; guidance on the implementation of the provisions of the IMO Guidelines and enhancing capacity-building could also be provided. The need to provide training workshops and seminars for national Administrations in ship recycling countries as well as assistance to national authorities in the development and implementation of national regulations were cited as examples of the assistance needed.

2.11 The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Government of the Netherlands for its kind contribution of Euros 25,000 to the ITCP for capacity-building projects related to ship recycling.

2.12 Some delegations expressed concern about the proliferation of issue based or specialized voluntary trust funds to support activities which could be included in the ITCP and supported through the TC Fund allocation.

2.13 Many delegations, whilst supporting in principle the establishment of such a fund, suggested that more information was needed on what type of technical co-operation activities would be supported by the fund.

2.14 The Committee noted the information on possible uses of the fund made available by the Secretariat subsequent to the discussion of this item.

2.15 In reply to a question about the rationale for the establishment of specialized voluntary trust funds, the Director, TCD, informed the Committee that the primary purpose was to provide a specific focus for potential donors (governments and industry) who may find it easier to contribute to such funds rather than to a general fund such as the TC Fund.

2.16 In conclusion, the Committee endorsed the proposal of the MEPC to establish an International Ship Recycling Fund provided that, when the Secretary General established the fund, a very clear indication should be provided as to which specific activities would be supported by the fund. The Committee noted the information on possible uses of the fund made available by the Secretariat subsequent to the discussion of this item.

2.17 The Committee noted the information provided by the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) (document TC 55/2/2) on efforts it had made in the field of capacity-building. It had created in 2002 the Capacity Building Committee (CBC). It had held three meetings so far, the latest in Cartagena, Colombia, and had achieved some tasks, among them the creation of the Capacity Building Fund, within the IHO budget, modelled on the IMO Trust Fund. The operation of the Fund, through the Committee, consisted of receiving projects from countries, assigning priorities, agreeing on them and organizing their financing from the Fund. Technical visits were carried out to the Dominican Republic, Vietnam, Thailand and Brunei in 2004 and to El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama in 2005. Visits to Myanmar and Cambodia had also been approved for 2005. Technical workshops had also been held in France and Fiji in October and November 2004 respectively.

2.18 The delegation of South Africa requested the CBC to give particular attention to Africa.

2.19 The representative of IHO indicated that the next CBC would be held in Mozambique and that special emphasis would be given to all of Africa.

2.20 The Committee thanked the IHO and noted the information provided. It recognized the importance of IHO in the maritime industry and commended it for its work.

2.21 The Committee's attention was drawn to document TC 55/2/Add.2 that highlighted matters of relevance to IMO contained in UN Security Council resolutions regarding Somalia. Paragraphs 6 to 10 of the document contained the recommendation of the Report of the Monitoring Group on Somalia, which indicated that, "notwithstanding the current infeasibility of a caretaker maritime authority for Somalia, there is an urgent need to ensure safety and security along the Somali coastline and to prevent or minimize its use as a route for arms trafficking. In this regard, it is recommended that IMO, in consultation with neighbouring States, and other agencies and organizations concerned, should develop a practical coastline-monitoring programme for Somalia." The Council, at its ninety-third session in November 2004, noted the information contained in document C 93/17(a)/1 and that provided verbally by the Secretary-General with respect to IMO's possible role in the creation of a caretaker marine authority for Somalia.

2.22 With regard to the recommendation of the Monitoring Group on Somalia, the Council:

- .1 supported the recommendation of the Monitoring Group that IMO, in consultation with neighbouring States and other agencies and organizations concerned, should develop a practical coastline-monitoring programme for Somalia; and
- .2 endorsed the Secretary-General's initiative to bring this recommendation to the attention of the MSC, MEPC and TCC, for consideration and action, as appropriate.

2.23 The delegation of Kenya indicated that its country had been supporting Somalia to form and establish a Government together with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) whose Members were Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. There was an increasing number of arms embargo violations, a trend that continued to rely less on air transport to ferry the illegal shipments. Instead, ocean transport and road transport were the predominant means of delivery. He urged that everybody moved with speed, as there would be no peace in Somalia unless there was an effective monitoring system both in the border crossings and the Somali coastline as well as to engage fully the neighbouring and regional States and the International Maritime Organization.

2.24 The Director, TCD, indicated that IMO would be ready to assist as soon as possible. However, it needed to wait for the establishment of a UNDP Office in Somalia and the necessary operational modalities through which it could carry out work in the country.

2.25 The Committee took note of the information provided.

### **3 INTEGRATED TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME**

#### **3.1 Interim Report on the status of ITCP implementation (2004-2005)**

3.1.1 The Committee was informed that the first subject under this agenda item was the interim report on the status of ITCP implementation (2004-2005) in document TC 55/3, which outlined the results achieved in implementation during 2004, the first year of the biennium. Attention was drawn to the supplementary document, TC 55/INF.4, which provided the Committee with statistical data on technical co-operation personnel engaged through TC programme activities during 2004.

3.1.2 The structure of the interim report reflected the distinction between financial resource delivery, represented by an analysis of the expenditure against resources, and the specific outputs achieved as a result of that expenditure. The document also included a summary of the major deliverables and expenditure trends as well as a detailed list of programmes and information on in-kind support provided by donor countries or organizations.

3.1.3 The report reflected the remarkable and sustained increase in financial delivery against activities implemented over the previous six years. The list of regional deliverables in the report provided an indication of the wide range of subjects and the geographical spread covered during the first year of the biennium.

3.1.4 During the first year of the biennium a total of some US\$14 million was delivered at the regional and global level, compared with a total of US\$13.2 million in 2003. A total of 97 missions were carried out; 115 courses, seminars and workshops were held at the national, regional and global levels, and 4,181 participants were trained world-wide. These statistics showed the range of long-term and emerging issues covered through the achievements of the ITCP implementation – all of fundamental relevance to the maritime administrations of developing regions.

3.1.5 Total donor contributions programmed under Programme Implementation Documents in 2004 amounted to US\$18,011,329, against an expenditure level of some US\$14,024,271, which translated into a delivery rate of 77.9% for the year. The overriding proportion of the ITCP funding base for 2004 was provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the TC Fund respectively, which together accounted for 75% of expenditure.

3.1.6 The breakdown by region and by discipline provided a comprehensive insight into the benefits accrued to each region under each major component, reflecting the priorities of both donors and recipients, and the degree to which they were converted into practical results at the local level.

3.1.7 The Committee was informed that the Interim Report would be available on the IMO TC website to maximize the dissemination of this information to all interested parties.

3.1.8 The Committee expressed support and appreciation for the documentation and work of the Secretariat. Further appreciation was expressed for the assistance provided to specific countries. This included many regional and sub-regional workshops to enable Member States to strengthen implementation of IMO rules and standards on a wide range of maritime subjects, such as port State control, OPRC, STCW, IMDG Code, and ISPS Code.



3.1.9 The report highlighted the high proportion of assistance to the Africa region. The delegation of Ghana reaffirmed its support for the Regional Co-ordinators Scheme in the region while expressing the hope that this laudable programme would continue and be made permanent.

3.1.10 It was noted that many Pacific Island countries were not well represented at the Committee due to the operational expenses of attending meetings at IMO Headquarters. However, they were, in effect, collectively represented by SPREP and the interim report reflected the assistance provided to the sub-region through the Organization.

3.1.11 The Director, TCD, expressed appreciation for the positive remarks regarding the quality and transparency of the report, and reminded the Committee that the success in the delivery of the ITCP was the result of a joint effort between TCD and its internal implementation agents (MSD and MED), as well as external partners, including regional organizations and Member States.

3.1.12 In response to suggestions regarding the evaluation of results and impact, the Director, TCD, referred firstly to the technical co-operation performance indicators under the Organization's Strategic Plan. Secondly, an Impact Assessment Exercise (IAE) was carried out every four years on selected disciplines, and since external consultants were used, it involved high costs. It might be worth considering carrying out IAEs more often, if it could be done at a lower cost. Thirdly, IMO workshops were evaluated by the participants at the conclusion of each course. The fourth measure currently in place was an ex-post evaluation process, organized by the Secretariat's Member State Audit and Internal Oversight Section, which examined feed-back from recipient countries. The solution may be consideration of more in-depth reporting back to TCC on those evaluation processes.

3.1.13 In summing up, the Chairman expressed his gratitude to the delegations for their comments and to the Secretariat for the considerable range of information and transparency of the data provided to the Committee in the report. He noted that the Committee had expressed appreciation of the presentation of the report and the perspective it presented of implementation in the first year of the biennial ITCP.

3.1.14 The Committee had found it most encouraging to note the sustained increase in the volume of assistance delivered over the period in question and more especially, to see that it confirmed a trend that had been sustained over the last six years.

3.1.15 In concluding the sub-item, the Committee (a) took note, with appreciation, of the information provided in the Interim Report on the ITCP for the 2004 – 2005 biennium and (b) thanked the donors and recipients for their commitment to the ITCP and requested them, if possible, to maintain and increase their support.

## **3.2 Capacity-building aspects of the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme**

3.2.1 The Committee had before it documents TC 55/3/1, TC 55/3/2, TC 55/WP.1 and TC 55/INF.2 which reported on developments related to the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme since the fifty-fourth session of the Committee, on the short-term financial implications of the implementation of the Scheme as requested by the Committee at its fifty-fourth session, on the outcome of the meeting of the Joint MSC/MEPC/TCC Working Group on the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme and on the financial and practical developments concerning the operation of International Financial Facility for Aviation Safety (IFFAS) by ICAO.

3.2.2 In addition to the information provided, the Secretariat reported on the outcome of the eightieth session of the Maritime Safety Committee on matters related to the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme since the meeting was held after the documents were circulated.

3.2.3 The Committee noted that documents TC 55/3/3 and TC 55/3/4 contained the proposed ITCP for the 2006-2007 biennium and the TC Fund allocation for the biennium, respectively. Table 19 in document TC 55/3/4 showed Global Programme 6 “Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme” but did not include the cost estimate. The documents were submitted to the Committee for approval.

3.2.4 The Committee was informed that it was assumed that, in general, the cost of conducting the audits would be borne by the audited Member States. However, some of the developing Member States that were unable to pay for the audits could request the Organization to provide financial support. Whilst the Framework and Procedures for the Voluntary Member State Audit Scheme, proposed for adoption by the Assembly, did not include the cost of conducting the audit in section 9 dealing with technical co-operation, it was estimated that up to 10 developing countries could seek assistance for the amount of the audit during the biennium 2006-2007.

3.2.5 The Committee considered three questions: firstly, should the cost of conducting the audit in some developing countries be included as part of the ITCP global programme; secondly, to what extent the proposed global programme should be financed by the TC Fund and, thirdly, should consideration be given to establishing a voluntary trust fund or other alternative means of financing or otherwise supporting capacity building. The Committee was advised that the estimated funding requirements of US\$1,077,000, as detailed in the annex to document TC 55/3/2, included costs for the training of auditors, technical assistance to facilitate the audit process and the conduct of audits in some developing countries. The Committee was further advised that an amount of US\$500,000 could be allocated to this programme from the proposed TC Fund reserve of US\$1.3 million without changing the priority activities proposed for TC Fund allocation for the 2006-2007 biennium.

3.2.6 The delegation of the Netherlands was pleased to inform the Committee that its Government was pledging Euros 30,000 for the conduct of audits in developing countries.

3.2.7 The delegation of Liberia indicated that it could not see the justification, at this time, of including the expenditure for the participation of observers in audits.

3.2.8 The Committee took note of the information provided in document TC 55/INF.2 on the financial and practical developments concerning the operation of ICAO’s IFFAS, as requested by the Committee at its fifty-fourth session.

3.2.9 The Committee:

- .1 agreed that the cost of conducting the audit in some developing countries should be included in the ITCP;
- .2 agreed that the amount of US\$ 500,000 should be allocated to the proposed programme “Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme” from the proposed TC Fund reserves; and

- .3 was of the opinion that it was premature to establish a voluntary trust fund but Member States should be encouraged to make contributions to the ITCP for the Audit Scheme following the example of the Netherlands.

3.2.10 The Committee also endorsed:

- .1 the Joint MSC/MEPC/TCC Working Group's report, in particular the text of section 9 of the draft Framework for the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit on technical co-operation; and
- .2 the draft Assembly resolution "Framework and procedures for the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit".

### **3.3 Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme for 2006-2007**

3.3.1 The Committee had before it document TC 55/3/3 containing, in its annex, the proposed ITCP for 2006-2007, which was introduced by the Secretariat.

3.3.2 The Committee noted that the ITCP for 2006-2007 had been prepared on the basis of the same structure approved by the Committee for the ITCP 2004-2005. Specifically, the new ITCP had four parts. Part I included the ITCP's mission statement and priorities, its long-and medium-term goals, Strategic plan for the Organization (2004 to 2010), thematic priorities and also a description of IMO's role in promoting sustainable socio-economic development through the focus areas of institutional capacity-building and human resource development. Part II explained the principles in the preparation, design and execution of the ITCP. Part III provided the constituent regional and global programmes. Part IV gave a summary of the funding requirements.

3.3.3 The new ITCP document summarized changes that had been introduced in respect of the proposed ITCP's medium-term goals and its constituent programmes. These changes included regionally-structured activities in accordance with the new elements of technical co-operation of the Change Management Programme (CMP) adopted in 2003, the new priorities of the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit scheme, promoting and enhancing the safety of non-convention vessels and the implementation of IMO Guidelines on ship recycling. In this respect, it was emphasized that the formulation of the new ITCP represented the collective efforts of the Technical Co-operation Division and all the technical Divisions in the Secretariat.

3.3.4 The Committee further noted that the proposed ITCP comprised 13 programmes (seven regional and six Global) with funding requirements of some US\$ 15.05 million (excluding the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit scheme programme). To develop such a modest, realistic and deliverable programme, the Secretariat had tried to reduce, by a half, the number of programmes based on the ITCP activities for 2004-2005. However, after careful consideration of the assessed needs of the developing regions, the new thematic priorities identified by the technical Committees, as well as the programme activities proposed by the technical divisions, the proposed programmes and activities contained in the ITCP for 2006-2007 were the minimum to be delivered.

3.3.5 Finally, the Committee noted that the proposed ITCP should be viewed as a living programme, to be adjusted as circumstances required. Full programme delivery, including that of Global Programme 6 on the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme would nevertheless depend on the availability of the required resources.

3.3.6 Many delegations expressed their appreciation for a well-structured, clear, and comprehensive programme. In their opinion, the activities in the regional and global programmes reflected and addressed the needs in the respective developing regions. One delegation pointed out that the thematic priority with regard to promoting and enhancing maritime safety aspects relating to non-Convention vessels, including small fishing vessels and domestic passenger ferries, was of great interest to Africa and that the Secretariat should include this activity in the next biennium for the region.

3.3.7 The delegation of Canada informed the Committee that Canada would consider providing in-kind support to the 2006-2007 ITCP within the framework of a proposed MoU to be signed between IMO and Transport Canada. The delegation of Egypt informed the Committee that the Government of Egypt would make a financial contribution of US\$50,000 to support the ITCP over a period of five years from 2006 to 2010 (US\$10,000 per annum). The Committee expressed its appreciation for these offers.

3.3.8 The delegation of Kenya reaffirmed the Kenya Government's commitment to the pilot project for the establishment and operation of a regional Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre (MRCC) in Mombasa and called on IMO to continue to make funds available from the International SAR Fund to complete the MRCC.

3.3.9 Some delegations suggested that IMO should consider making a linkage between the ITCP and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the ITCP. The Director of TCD informed the Committee that since the ITCP was a living document, the Secretariat would in future make further efforts to strengthen its linkages with the MDGs when the ITCP was put on the IMO website and when a new Technical Co-operation brochure was prepared.

3.3.10 Commenting on the preceding debate, the Secretary-General agreed with the views of the delegations regarding the need to strengthen the linkage between the ITCP and the MDGs and stated that UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's report on what had been achieved since the September 2000 UN Millennium Summit raised many concerns. He further informed the Committee that IMO should consider harmonizing its work with the MDGs following the Summit to be held in September 2005.

3.3.11 One delegation pointed out that, as IMO was a technical regulatory agency and not a development agency, there were limits to the extent to which its technical co-operation goals could be linked to the Millennium Development Goals.

3.3.12 The delegation of Angola invited the Committee to:

- .1 recognize the importance of the role of the transport sector in general and maritime transport in particular, in providing access to markets and socio-economic opportunities and, hence, contributing significantly to poverty reduction;
- .2 express its concern at the low level of coverage of good quality port infrastructure as well as costly maritime transport services in a large number of IMO Member States;

- .3 recognize the importance of the role of maritime transport sector in the achievement of MDG 8 (Target 14 – special needs of Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Islands Developing States);
- .4 to consider recommending the following:
  - .1 a comprehensive proposal for the alignment of the ITCP for 2006-2007, with the MDGs;
  - .2 a definition of specific maritime transport objectives and development indicators in order to evaluate the contributions of the maritime transport sector for the achievement of the MDGs; as well as
  - .3 identification of specific maritime transport targets and implementation strategies in order to ensure a positive contribution of the maritime sector in the achievement of the Millennium Objectives.

It was agreed that the delegation of Angola would submit a paper for consideration at the Committee's fifty-sixth session.

3.3.13 It was also agreed that South Africa would prepare a paper on maritime poverty.

3.3.14 In concluding this item, the Committee welcomed the efforts of the Secretariat to prepare a comprehensive and realistic programme and approved the ITCP for 2006-2007.

#### **3.4 Technical Co-operation Fund – biennial allocation to support the ITCP for 2006-2007**

3.4.1 In accordance with the Rules of Operation of the Technical Fund (document TC/Circ.63, paragraph 6), the Secretariat submitted proposals, under document TC 55/3/4, for the allocation of TC Fund resources to support the delivery of the ITCP during the 2006-2007 biennium. The Committee's attention was drawn to the proposed allocation of £4.88 million, (approximately US\$9.37 million) which had since been increased to £5.1 million (approximately US\$9.87 million) as a result of the Committee's decision to include an allocation for the voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme.

3.4.2 The biennial allocation of the TC Fund would be financed from available monies in the TC Fund and by the proposed transfer of £3 million from the Printing Fund surplus, which was pending approval of the Council the following week.

3.4.3 The document provided the historical progression of resourcing and expenditure, which reflected a balance of £6.8 million at the beginning of the current biennium and the projected status of the fund for the next biennium. Assuming the full implementation of the proposed allocation of £4.88 million to the ITCP in the document, the TC Fund reserves would potentially be reduced to £1.3 million by December 2007. Taking into account the additional allocation for the voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme, which increased the total allocation to £5,155,400, the reserves would potentially be decreased further to approximately £1.026 million. The steady decline in reserves over the two biennia was primarily due to the significant rate of increase in the implementation of TC Fund-supported activities delivered in the developing regions over the previous six years.

3.4.4 As required by the Rules of Operation of the Technical Co-operation Fund, the relative distribution of the proposed biennial allocation was reflected, under two different frameworks. The first presented the allocation against the Organization's consolidated major programme, Capacity-building and technical co-operation, while the second showed the breakdown in accordance with the ITCP programme structure. The proposed allocation would cover 63.5% of the expanded ITCP, as compared with the 56% coverage of the current biennium.

3.4.5 The Committee's attention was drawn to the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme, which the Committee had previously decided to include in the new ITCP. It was proposed that an additional US\$500,000 be allocated from the TC Fund to support that global programme.

3.4.6 A number of delegations expressed their appreciation for the clarity and transparency of the document and its structure, which greatly facilitated consideration of the proposed TC Fund allocation.

3.4.7 One delegation requested that the Secretariat carry out a study on funding trends with respect to the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme to gauge the effect this would have on the TC Fund resources. Other delegations voiced their concern on the impact of funding the Audit Scheme from the TC Fund. The Secretariat undertook to prepare an analysis of the impact of financing the capacity-building aspects of the Scheme on the TC Fund beyond 2007.

3.4.8 The delegation of France stated that it could not agree to the transfer of a specified amount when this question was being considered by the Council the following week. Although France could support the proposal in principal, the delegation stated that it must reserve its position. The delegation drew attention to Assembly resolution A.873(20), which *inter alia* authorized the Secretary-General to transfer all the surplus of the Printing Fund to the TC Fund.

3.4.9 The Secretary-General informed the Committee that he would be reversing the order of agenda items 6 and 7 at the Council in order that the items to be decided under agenda 7 concerning the TC Fund would be completed before the Council's consideration of agenda item 6 on Work Programme and Budget for the twenty-fourth Financial Period 2006-2007. The Secretary-General also stated that he would be requesting the Council's approval to replenish other Funds, including the Headquarters Capital Fund, the Termination Benefits Fund and the Training and Development Fund.

3.4.10 The Committee acknowledged appreciation for the valuable input provided to the regions through the financial support of the TC Fund, and a number of Member States referred specifically to the results achieved through the proportional allocation of TC Fund resources to the various regions. At the same time delegations stressed the importance of the continuation of this support in strengthening the maritime capacities for their regions. The Committee expressed its support for the prioritization of assistance to Africa.

3.4.11 The Committee:

- .1 **approved** the proposals for the use of the TC Fund for the proposed activities under the ITCP for 2006-2007, and the biennial allocation of £ 5,155,400 from the TC Fund for that purpose;

- .2 **endorsed** the Secretary-General's proposal to transfer £ 3 million from the Printing Fund to the TC Fund during the next biennium;
- .3 **requested** the Council to authorize the Secretary-General to use the un-programmed funds of the TC Fund, during the next biennium, should demands or partnership opportunities arise;
- .4 **requested** the Secretary-General to carry out a study on funding trends with respect to the Voluntary Member State Audit Scheme in order to gauge the effect it would have on the TC Fund resources; and
- .5 **requested** the Secretary-General to transmit these views to the Council at its ninety-fourth session the following week for its consideration and approval.

#### 4 LONG-TERM FINANCING FOR THE ITCP BY THE MEMBER STATES

4.1 Introducing document TC 55/4, the Director, TCD, recalled that the Assembly had requested the preparation of a long-range Technical Co-operation (TC) Financial Forecast for the period 2006 to 2009, to be considered by the Assembly in November 2005. As a result of a decision taken by the Committee at its fifty-fourth session, this document had been circulated in January 2005 with a view to generating written comments and proposals from Member States for consideration in June 2005. He advised the Committee that the Secretariat had received only one written response, from the Government of Singapore.

4.2 The response from the Government of Singapore was introduced to the Committee, under document TC 55/4/2, by the delegation of Singapore. Some proposals contained in the submission were based on discussions that took place at TCC 54 and the delegation commended the progress made in the 12 months that had elapsed since that meeting, particularly the ideas that had been developed by the Secretariat. The three-prong response to the challenge of ITCP funding, included:

- .1 to capitalize on the new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System to improve financial management directly and indirectly, with the potential reallocation of the resources saved;
- .2 to forge partnerships with donors and other stakeholders as clearly set out in paragraph 9 of the document; and
- .3 to rethink the current funding paradigm, in particular internalizing non-cash (in-kind) contributions into the ITCP funding paradigm.

4.3 The Director, TCD, referred the Committee to the discussion on the issue of a long-term funding and resource mobilization strategy which took place at TCC 54 based on document TC 54/9/1. The follow-up document, TC 55/4/1, was prepared by the Secretariat for the Committee's further consideration in addressing the long-term forecast of the financial support to the ITCP.

4.4 The document outlined the projected financial requirements needed to support the ITCP implementation and provided, in parallel, the estimated financial support which might be available from the Printing Fund surpluses and other potential donor sources, to enable a measure of the shortfall between supply and demand in the context of cash contributions to the ITCP. The

data clearly indicated that the level of implementation and financial delivery of TC activities was increasing steadily, while at the same time the predictable sources of financial support to the ITCP were diminishing.

4.5 The Director drew attention to the declining reserves of the TC Fund, which would have dropped from £6.8 million in January 2004 to an estimated £580,000 by December 2009. If the present trends were maintained, as projected in the document, the TC Fund could not be considered a sustainable or predictable source of support for the ITCP in the long term.

4.6 The document presented the donor profile for 2004, which comprised 20 sources of funding but was dominated by the TC Fund and GEF - at 42% and 32%, respectively, of disbursed funds. Eighteen donors covered the remaining 26% of the programme, in which 12 donors accounted for less than 1% each of the total disbursements. The significance of the “pyramid structure” of IMO’s TC donor-profile, with a concentration of two primary sources at the top and a wide, fragmented base, has important implications for the long-term sustainability of the ITCP and the forward-planning of TC activities.

4.7 As was clearly stated in the document, the absence of formal, long-term commitments from external donors left little scope for forward planning of activities, and while in-kind support and partnership agreements provided notable savings which could be transferred for the implementation of further activities, that support was essentially contributory in nature since it rarely enabled the implementation of an entire self-supporting activity.

4.8 The Secretariat was commended for the number of the partnerships forged, which had been instrumental in the successful delivery of TC activities. There was a general agreement that partnerships with regional organizations provided a cost-effective and efficient mechanism, and the Secretariat was encouraged to develop these further.

4.9 Reference was made to the potential benefits which could accrue from the use of the ERP system as a resource to redirect and mobilize resources. The Director, Administration informed the Committee that the ERP represented a force for change which would enable processes to be revised. The improvement of information would allow the redeployment of human and financial resources.

4.10 The delegation of Canada acknowledged the implications of an under-resourced ITCP and announced that its Government would be seeking advice on how it might play a further role.

4.11 The Committee agreed that it was necessary to continue to address the issue of the long-term financial sustainability of the ITCP, which was indeed a priority identified most recently by the Assembly in resolution A.944(23) on the Organization’s Strategic Plan.

4.12 The Committee:

- .1 noted the information provided under the document submitted by the Government of Singapore, TC 55/4/2;
- .2 noted the information provided under the TC Financial Forecast under document TC 55/4/1;



- .3 noted the decreasing level of funding available for the implementation of the ITCP;
- .4 endorsed the formulation of a resource-mobilization strategy based on the five precepts presented, which were as follows:
  - .1 ensuring that the TC Fund was maintained as a core fund to support the delivery of the primary activities of the biennial ITCP, and as a means to attract cost-sharing participation from external donor countries and organizations;
  - .2 maximizing the cost-effectiveness of our delivery mechanism – i.e. by reducing costs without lowering the quality of the services provided;
  - .3 establishing an equitable financial mechanism which could ensure the sustainability of a certain minimum level or core capacity of the Organization to respond to the emerging technical assistance needs of developing member countries;
  - .4 mobilizing external financial and in-kind support through partnerships with Member States, organizations and industry, to supplement the core funding of the ITCP;
  - .5 sharing responsibility for resource mobilization; and
- .5 agreed to transmit its views and recommendations to the Council for submission to the Assembly at its twenty-fourth session in November 2005.

## **5 GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON MARITIME SECURITY**

5.1 The Committee had before it documents TC 55/5 and TC 55/5/1. The documents provided updated information on activities conducted since the Committee's last session and on the on-going delivery of global programmes on ISPS Code implementation and the maritime security "Train-the-Trainer" courses.

### **Delivery of advisory missions and national seminars/workshops**

- 5.2 The Committee was apprised of the milestones achieved since its last meeting, *viz*:
- .1 needs assessments conducted and advisory missions carried out in Liberia and Mauritania;
  - .2 missions on maritime security undertaken in six South Pacific Islands in partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC); and
  - .3 delivery of 14 national seminars/workshops and two Port Facility Security Officer's courses, with about 575 persons trained.

5.3 A sub-regional seminar on piracy and armed robbery against ships and maritime security for the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden had been conducted in April 2005 and a seminar on safety, security and environmental protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, as well as

an IMO/Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) workshop on the review of ISPS Code implementation were planned for September 2005.

5.4 The Committee noted that to date a total of 19 regional and 55 national seminars/workshops, as well as 32 country advisory missions on maritime security, had been successfully and effectively delivered and some 3,800 persons had been trained through the process.

### **Train-the-Trainer programme**

5.5 The Committee welcomed the launch in September 2004 of the Train-the-Trainer programme and noted that of the 19 training courses envisaged, 11 had been conducted with some 218 persons trained.

5.6 The Committee expressed its appreciation for the assistance rendered to the programme by Administrations and Governments that had provided host-ship facilities for these activities.

### **Development of training packages**

5.7 The Committee noted that IMO Model Courses for Ship Security Officer, Company Security Officer and Port Facility Security Officer had been published and were available in English, French and Spanish. It also noted that Videos and CD-ROMs on port security had been produced in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish and would shortly be distributed to developing countries and that the Secretariat was in the final stages of a tender specification on conversion of the maritime security model courses into distance learning tools.

### **Future developments**

5.8 The Committee took note of anticipated activities for the remainder of 2005. These activities were as follows:

- .1 continuation of needs assessment/advisory missions on ISPS Code implementation;
- .2 delivery of eight regional maritime security Train-the-Trainer courses;
- .3 testing of the Model Course on Control and Compliance Measures; and
- .4 response to other regional initiatives and promotion of regional co-operation to implement the ISPS Code (involving Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) region, Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) for Latin America and the Caribbean).

5.9 The Committee was also informed of, and noted activities identified by, the seventy-ninth session of the Maritime Safety Committee (December 2004) for possible implementation during 2005-2007, as follows:

- .1 training of Port Facility Security Officers;
- .2 training of officials to exercise control and compliance measures;

- .3 conversion of maritime security-related courses into distance learning tools;
- .4 development of the IMO website to improve accessibility and information resources on maritime security, including frequently asked questions (FAQs) on ISPS Code implementation; and
- .5 partnerships with International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNDOC), APEC, African Union (AU), Partnerships in Environment Management of the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA), regional development banks, port organizations, such as International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH), etc.

5.10 The Committee was informed that IMO was in contact with the World Bank and that the institution had indicated that it was now amenable to direct approaches from developing countries and had expressed its willingness to work with IMO, if a country so desired.

5.11 IMO was in collaboration with the Organization of American States/Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (OAS/CICTE) in organizing training programmes in port security assessment. A workshop on Implementation of the ISPS Code – its present status and post-implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean would be held in Mexico at the end of October 2005. CICTE has also informed IMO that in consultation with the Government of Colombia and the Inter-American Commission on Drug Abuse Control (CICAD), it had plans to organize a three day seminar in Colombia at a future date. The seminar would be at policy level, focused on policy makers with responsibilities and decision power on port security policy and issues.

5.12 The Committee was informed that the Secretariat had been approaching different sources for this global programme. The US State Department was also showing keen interest in working more closely with IMO on port security matters. They already provided a funding to support CICTE's port security programme. Australia had indicated its interest in partnership with IMO for maritime security activities for Asia and Pacific Islands region. IMO sent representatives to several APEC organized events and IMO and APEC were discussing a possible partnership agreement on maritime security.

5.13 The Committee was informed by Singapore that they had been contributing to maritime security capacity-building programmes and that apart from IMO and ASEAN, they were also collaborating with Australia, under APEC, to conduct three courses on maritime security by the end of this year (2005).

5.14 Many delegations assigned a high priority to this activity and expressed their thanks and gratitude to the Secretariat for its ongoing efforts in this field. They had very much benefited from the exercise and anticipated its continuation. The Committee also expressed its gratitude to those Member States that facilitated these activities through in-kind support.

#### **International Maritime Security Trust Fund (IMST Fund)**

5.15 The Committee was informed that since its establishment, a total of US\$560,000 had been received in donations to the IMST Fund. All funds were transferred to the Global Programme on Maritime Security to fund maritime security related activities and projects identified as priorities by developing countries and donors. There was still a great demand for assistance in the implementation of the maritime security regime.

5.16 The Committee was informed of an additional pledge by the United States of US\$99,000 to the IMST Fund for 2005 and that the United Kingdom was also seeking to provide an additional contribution of £200,000 to the IMST Fund for activities to be implemented in 2005-2006.

5.17 The Netherlands, after thanking the Secretariat for the transparency of the document, pointed out that maritime security was an important issue needing constant awareness and pledged €25,000 to the IMST Fund.

5.18 The United States informed the Committee that US\$400,000 had been earmarked for the IMST Fund and this sum was awaiting congressional clearance.

5.19 The Committee noted that this type of fund-raising exercise was a shared responsibility and that all should work together in partnership to secure the sustainability of the IMST Fund and IMO's Global Technical Co-operation Programme on Maritime Security. Member States and industry were urged to contribute generously to the IMST Fund.

5.20 In thanking contributors, the delegation of Nigeria urged all to contribute to the IMST Fund, no matter how small the contribution.

5.21 At the end of its deliberations on this item of the Agenda, the Committee expressed appreciation to the Member States and Institutions that had generously contributed to the IMST Fund, those that had made further contributions and those that had made pledges. The Committee, being fully aware that fund-raising was a shared responsibility, urged Member States and industry to work together to contribute to the IMST Fund.

## **6 PARTNERSHIPS FOR PROGRESS PROGRAMME**

### **Regional co-ordination and delivery**

6.1 The Committee had before it document TC 55/6 which reported on the status of the IMO Regional Presence programme in Africa and East Asia and on the delivery of IMO's technical co-operation activities.

6.2 The Committee was updated on the progress made with regard to regional co-ordination in Africa, in Côte d'Ivoire for the West and Central (Francophone) Africa, in Ghana for the West and Central (Anglophone) Africa and in Kenya for the Eastern and Southern Africa subregion as well as in the Philippines for East Asia. It noted the beneficial impact that these offices were having in their respective regions on the number of IMO activities carried out and on the overall regional project delivery as well as that of the Regional Maritime Adviser in the Caribbean.

6.3 The Committee was advised that, thanks to field level representation, the Regional Co-ordinators had been able to participate in the preparation and formulation of United Nations Common Country Assessment and Development Assistance Framework (CCA/UNDAF) documents and to contribute to regional meetings and conferences. As a result of the close contacts that the Regional Co-ordinators had established with Member States, the donor community and regional/subregional organizations involved in the maritime sector, they had represented IMO at 28 meetings organized by institutions such as: the African Union, UNDP, ECOWAS, PMAWCA, PMAESA, MOWCA, APEC, REMPEITC, COCATRAM and others.

6.4 The Committee was further advised that the second annual meeting of the IMO regional co-ordinators based in Africa had been held in Kenya in October 2004. The meeting had provided an opportunity for the Secretariat to exchange information and review the work of the regional co-ordinators with a view to harmonizing and co-ordinating effectively their activities in the Africa region in order to implement the ITCP better.

6.5 The Committee was informed of the support given by the host countries for the running of the regional presence offices and also of the additional financial support of US\$18,591.34 received from the Government of Côte d'Ivoire for the Abidjan office.

6.6 It was reported to the Committee that the MoUs that had established the IMO regional presence were due to expire on 31 December 2005 and that the Secretariat was in the process of negotiating the renewal and extension of the MoUs up to 31 December 2007. The Committee was reminded that the current ITCP for the 2004-2005 biennium had funding for the regional presence up to December 2005 and that further funding was included in the proposed ITCP for the 2006-2007 biennium.

6.7 The Committee noted that the Memorandum of Understanding between India and IMO, for the establishment of a regional presence office in South Asia, was very close to finalization.

6.8 The Committee's attention was drawn to the noticeable impact of the partnership mechanism which had been functioning successfully due to an increased number of joint projects and to the effective liaison and co-ordination between IMO and other agencies and subregional institutions involved in the maritime sector as a whole. Such arrangements included partnerships through the GEF (World Bank, UNDP, UNEP) programme with PEMSEA, agreements with the Secretariat of the SPC, MoUs with Singapore and with SPREP. The Committee noted that 58 missions and national/regional seminars and workshops had taken place in 2004 with the close co-ordination and co-operation of some regional institutions and donor communities such as the Republic of Korea, France, Singapore, AASTMT, COCATRAM, ROCRAM, ROCRAM-CA, RAC/REMPEITC-Carib, DIRECTEMAR, ASEAN, PEMSEA, SACEP, SPC and SPREP.

6.9 The Committee was informed that, with a view to obtaining more in-kind support and to promote regional implementation of the ITCP, IMO had signed a new MoU with PMAWCA, assigning it responsibilities for the co-ordination and execution of one regional workshop on port State control for the West and Central Africa (Francophone) subregion.

6.10 The Committee was further informed that discussions with other donors and partners were in progress either for additional support or conclusion of new MoUs. In this respect, some MoUs (SECROGRAM and ASEAN) had been extended for a new period and the extension of the MoU with the Government of Egypt was being negotiated to ensure further support to the related ITCP activities. The Committee was further advised that discussions with the Government of Algeria were still in progress for more funds and support. Two Member States had made substantial contributions to the Technical Co-operation Fund. Since the last session of TCC, a total of approximately US\$700,000 had been received from the Republic of Korea to support the implementation of ITCP activities in Africa, Asia and ROCRAM-CA countries, as well as the WMU fellowship programme. France had provided its annual contribution of approximately US\$100,000 for the purpose of promoting the delivery of IMO's technical assistance activities. The Secretariat expressed its thanks and appreciation to these donors for their support.

6.11 The Committee noted with appreciation the information provided by the delegation of Chile (TC 55/6/2) on behalf of ROCRAM and which summarized the experience of the Chilean Maritime Authority in managing the ROCRAM Secretariat and the efforts made to deliver IMO technical co-operation activities. The Director of TCD expressed the appreciation of the Secretariat for the excellent co-operation received during the tenure of Chile (DIRECTEMAR) as SECROGRAM. He informed the Committee that it had recently signed an MoU with the Panama Maritime Authority and looked forward to the close co-operation with the new SECROGRAM.

6.12 The delegation of Singapore presented an information document (TC 55/INF.5) on the status of technical assistance activities provided by its Government in the maritime/port sector to other countries. Through the MoU with IMO, Singapore had been able to carry out 34 courses in addition to five other courses planned for 2005 and it had also collaborated with other institutions such as ILO, APEC and WMU for the delivery of training programmes. At bilateral level, Singapore continued to provide technical assistance to a range of countries.

6.13 Canada informed the Committee of its in-kind assistance rendered to the Port of Sudan and Tunisia on maritime security awareness training and expressed interest in establishing an MoU between Transport Canada and IMO.

6.14 Several delegations expressed support and appreciation for the positive work and impact of the IMO regional presence so far. They wished to see the scheme reinforced in terms of human resources and to see it recognized as a permanent element of the ITCP. They also encouraged IMO to continue providing assistance to regional institutions and to co-operate with them.

6.15 The four host countries for the regional presence offices expressed their commitment to renew the MoUs that established the offices and to continue to provide support to the regional presence programme. Moreover, the delegation of Côte d'Ivoire indicated that their Government had released the funds necessary to implement UNDP's recommendations on the security of the IMO regional office in Abidjan.

6.16 The representative of Malta reported to the Committee on the outcome of the regional meeting during which draft legislation covering maritime safety for non-convention ships for the Mediterranean Region was approved. This conclusive meeting was held in Malta in February 2005 with the close co-operation and in-kind support of the Government of Malta.

6.17 Some delegations expressed appreciation of the offer made by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) to contribute a sum of approximately US\$1 million through IMO to assist in the implementation of the Regional Maritime Strategy of Operative Network of Regional Co-operation among the Maritime Authorities of South America, Cuba, Mexico and Panama (ROGRAM) and looked forward to the implementation of this programme through IMO and SECROGRAM. The Director, TCD, informed the Committee that the Secretariat had prepared a draft project proposal which it was discussing with SIDA and that it was envisaged that, given the objective of the SIDA support, the activities would be integrated within the IMO/ROGRAM programme.

6.18 The Secretary General of MOWCA pointed out the importance of the annual meeting of the regional co-ordinators and suggested that his Organization be invited to attend such meetings in the future. He also reported that the Central Africa subregion was experiencing problems due to piracy and armed robbery activities in waters off the region, and that MOWCA had a genuine

interest in seeing this problem effectively addressed by the creation of an integrated coast guard network. He asked IMO to provide consultants to carry out a feasibility study for the setting up of this network. The delegation of France emphasized the importance of such regional projects.

6.19 The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran informed the Committee that they were in the process of finalizing an MoU with IMO making available training facilities and personnel.

6.20 The delegation of PMAWCA expressed its satisfaction at the signature of an MoU with IMO, the first activity of which was a regional seminar on PSC which was held in the Republic of the Congo.

6.21 The Committee concluded its consideration of this agenda item by:

- .1 taking note of the information contained in documents TC 55/6, TC 55/6/2 and TC 55/INF.5;
- .2 expressing its appreciation to the Governments of Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya and the Philippines for their generous financial and in-kind support for the regional offices;
- .3 expressing its appreciation to all donors and regional organizations for their ongoing collaboration in the delivery of the ITCP activities that had already been completed and those that were currently being executed; and
- .4 urging IMO's development partners to contribute additional resources, including contributions in-kind, for securing the necessary funding for the continuation of the IMO regional co-ordination and delivery programme.

### **Implementation of resolution A.965(23)**

6.22 The Committee had before it document TC 55/6/1, which provided information on new partnerships made since the last session of the Committee and on the evaluation of the impact of the programme on IMO Regional Presence, as requested by Assembly resolution A.965(23).

6.23 The Committee was informed that IMO had established some 30 partnership arrangements for its technical co-operation activities. Twenty of them were made with developing and developed countries and the rest with international and regional institutions. Since the last session of the Committee, partnerships had been established with port associations in Africa, namely the Port Management Association for Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA) and PMAWCA. The purpose of the partnerships was for the two organizations to assist in the implementation of ITCP activities planned for Africa.

6.24 The Committee was also informed that several donors had recently increased or pledged financial contributions to the ITCP. Since the signing of the MoU on Technical Co-operation with IMO in June 2003, the Republic of Korea had contributed a total of US\$1.1 million for the ITCP and the World Maritime University fellowship programme. Since July 2004, the Government of United Kingdom had donated a total of some £233,000 for maritime security activities and was now considering provision of an additional contribution of £200,000 to the International Maritime Security Trust Fund (IMST Fund). SIDA had offered to contribute a sum of approximately US\$1 million, through IMO, to assist in the implementation of the Regional

Maritime Strategy of the Operative Network of Regional Co-operation among the Maritime Authority of South America, Cuba, Mexico and Panama (ROCRAM).

6.25 Further to a formal review of the three IMO Regional Presence Offices in Africa in 2001 and, in view of the fact that several Governments had requested the further expansion of the geographical coverage and of the request of resolution A.965(23) to evaluate the impact of the Regional Presence Programme before considering further expansion, the Secretariat had organized another evaluation of the Programme. The recent evaluation consisted of two exercises, *viz.* the impact assessment of the ITCP covering the four-year period 2000-2003, carried out by three external consultants between February and April 2004, and an internal impact assessment of the Programme carried out during the first few months in 2005.

6.26 As reported to the fifty-fourth session of the TCC, the ITCP Impact Assessment Exercise (IAE) covered two thematic areas and one modality of technical co-operation delivery and the latter was ITCP implementation through partnerships with national and regional institutions, which included the evaluation of IMO regional presence activities in Africa. The second exercise was limited to the evaluation of the regional presence programme and this was carried out by correspondence. The four Regional Co-ordinators provided a summary of activities delivery by them during 2001-2004 after the first review carried out in 2001. Forty-seven developing countries, served by the four Regional Co-ordinators, were invited to provide comments on the Regional Presence scheme.

6.27 The overall conclusions of the evaluation through the two exercises had been very positive as the scheme has proved to be an effective mechanism in the delivery of the ITCP, as well as in mobilizing support for IMO's activities and enabling IMO to extend its regional outreach and country level interaction in accordance with the development objectives of the United Nations. However, with the summary breakdown cost of the scheme provided in the document, it was also concluded that the cost of maintaining the existing Regional Co-ordinators was significant and would represent an increasing share of the total TC Funds available to implement the emerging priorities of the ITCP and, that further expansion of the scheme did require the identification of additional sources of funding or in-kind contribution.

6.28 With respect to the IMO Regional Presence Scheme, the Committee noted that the scheme started as a pilot scheme, the original objective of which was to assist in the delivery of the ITCP activities in selected areas and, in particular, in Africa. It was never the intention of the scheme to establish a regional office in every region. The Director informed the Committee of the following key points which needed to be borne in mind when considering the regional presence scheme:

- Council and TCC had already authorized the Secretary-General to establish the regional presence and to consider extending the regional presence scheme to other regions as soon as practicable and after necessary consultations between the Secretariat and interested Member States, taking into account available resources.
- Secretary-General authorized to decide where, when and how to establish the regional presence.
- No single model for uniform applications to all regions e.g. MoUs with regional organizations.



- The use of national experts as regional co-ordinators had ensured low cost operation.
- Objective of the regional presence scheme was to improve delivery mechanism of TC at field level.
- Regional presence scheme was functioning well.
- TCC had expressed a wish for the scheme to remain permanent in the context of considering results of Africa pilot scheme.
- Cost represented an increasing share of the TC Fund resources (32% of the allocation for the current ITCP).
- No financial or in-kind support had been received from Member States and/or donors as originally envisaged (except for host States).
- Assembly resolution A.965(23) requested the Secretary-General to be prudent in considering further expansion of the geographic coverage.
- Future expansion and sustainability dependent on alternative funding sources.
- Africa was and should still remain the priority region.

6.29 One delegation expressed the view that the evaluation of the scheme was a highly successful exercise, which proved the usefulness of the partnerships established by IMO with countries or regional organizations. Another delegation highlighted the importance of the partnership arrangements at regional level, through which, countries that did not have the capacity to provide cash contributions to the ITCP were able to provide in-kind support, including local expertise.

6.30 In concluding this item, the Committee noted:

- .1 the progress made with respect to the development and improvements of partnership arrangements for technical co-operation;
- .2 the work accomplished or being undertaken by both the Secretariat and the Regional Co-ordinators to publicize the work of the Regional Presence Offices;
- .3 the Secretariat's evaluation of the impact of the programme on the IMO regional presence as requested by Assembly resolution A.965(23) and the very positive conclusions as contained in paragraph 47 of the document;
- .4 the usefulness of the IMO Regional Presence Scheme and the contributions made by the Regional Co-ordinators to the effectiveness of the delivery of the ITCP and to IMO's mandate; and
- .5 the cost incurred in the operation of the Regional Presence Scheme and the apparent need to secure additional funds or in-kind contributions before considering further expansion of the scheme.

## 7 INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FELLOWSHIPS

7.1 The Secretary-General referred to documents C 94/13(a), C 94/13(a)/Corr.1, C 94/13(a)/Add.1 and C 94/13(b) and updated the Committee on the outcome of the last Board of Governors' meeting which convened in Malmö recently.

7.2 He advised the Committee that the External Auditor, in presenting the University's Financial Audit Report for the year ended 31 December 2004 to the Board of Governors, placed an "unqualified audit opinion" on the University's financial statements for that financial year.

7.3 The Committee noted that the Annual Report highlighted the continuation of remarkable progress made by the University on a broad front, especially in areas such as academic development, international recognition and collaboration, research and consultancy, student enrolment, and the continuing expansion of the global network of WMU Graduates.

7.4 In particular, he drew the Committee's attention to two notable developments which took place in 2004: the comprehensive evaluation of the University by the European University Association (EUA); and the increased global extension of the WMU programme through short-term Professional Development Courses delivered around the world and the establishment of two new Master of Science degree programmes for delivery in Shanghai and Dalian, China.

7.5 On the EUA evaluation, the Secretary-General stated that it presented a very positive picture of WMU's academic programme, continued progress and future prospects. He said that the University and its Board of Governors, its international supporters and the IMO Membership could be justifiably satisfied and proud. The accelerated global outreach programme was not only consistent with the University's international mandate and mission but would, as expected, also double the annual number of WMU graduates to serve the international maritime community.

7.6 The budget for the University for the current year projected a total income of US\$8.8 million and a total expenditure of US\$8.7 million, compared to US\$8.7 million and US\$8.5 million respectively in the 2004 budget approved by the University's Board of Governors. Further increases in income were expected to be generated in 2005 from WMU's growing research and consultancy programme. However, the Committee was advised of the increasing problem to WMU finances caused by the continuing devaluation of the US dollar against the Swedish crown (SEK). This was so because the University received most of its income in US dollars while most of its expenditure was in Swedish crowns.

7.7 In expressing his appreciation to the Government of France for its decision in 2005 to increase its longstanding annual contribution to WMU by one-third to a total of US\$156,000, the Secretary-General said that the French gesture was an expression of confidence in, and support for, the University. The contribution included the establishment of a designated French Chair in Maritime Management and would enhance both WMU finances and its academic capability.

7.8 The Secretary-General also recorded his thanks and appreciation of the Government of Sweden and the City of Malmö for their enduring support of WMU and also other long-standing supporters of the University, such as the Ship and Ocean Foundation of Japan, the International Transport Workers' Federation and the Governments of Canada, Norway, the Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom, who had all increased or maintained the number of WMU student fellowships supported for 2005. He also thanked the Government of China for its donation of US\$100,000 for new computers.

7.9 Member States and the maritime industry were urged to join the list of WMU donors to provide more broadly-based and long-term financial support to the University in line with the request of the Assembly in resolution A.933 entitled "Sustainable financial support for WMU".

7.10 The Secretary-General advised the Committee of the presentation on "Maritime Human Resource Development and its Future" by the President of The Nippon Foundation of Japan, Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, on 21 June. He noted that the Nippon Foundation was setting an example for other stakeholders in the maritime community to emulate its efforts in reinforcing its partnership with WMU and IMLI so that these global training institutions could continue to effectively meet the ever-growing demand for highly-skilled maritime personnel.

7.11 The Secretary-General also informed the Committee of a decision by the WMU Board of Governors to award honorary Doctorates of Science in Maritime Affairs to Ambassador Anders Forsse of Sweden and Dr. Gamal Mokhtar of Egypt for their services and contribution to the University.

7.12 The President of WMU informed the Committee that the WMU graduates had a sustainable impact on the international maritime community. He referred the Committee to the WMU Graduate Directory on its website which provided updates on its graduates' professional careers.

7.13 On its expanded global outreach programme, the WMU President informed the Committee that the Shanghai and Dalian initiatives in China were identical to the Malmö programme, self-funded, open to all nationalities and would help meet the overwhelming demand for WMU training.

7.14 Many delegations expressed their appreciation of WMU's achievements and commended the Secretary-General and the President of WMU.

7.15 The Committee duly noted the information provided.

### **IMO International Maritime Law Institute**

7.16 Turning to documents C 94/14(a), C 94/14(a)/Add.1, C 94/14(b) and C 94/14(b)/Add.1, the Secretary-General informed the Committee that the Institute continued to thrive with a total of 332 graduates from 103 countries and territories.

7.17 He thanked donors whose generosity in contributing to the Institute's operational fund and the donation of fellowships enabled IMLI to raise sufficient income to cover its budget for the academic year 2004/2005. The Institute's External Auditors gave its financial statements for the financial year ended 31 August 2004 an unqualified opinion.

7.18 The Secretary-General informed the Committee that the Institute now had a total of 332 IMLI graduates worldwide from 103 countries and territories with seven students enrolled in its Ph.D. programme at present. There was strong interest in its short course programme and IMLI was in the process of selecting prospective candidates for the next academic course starting on 12 September 2005, which was already three times over-subscribed.

7.19 He advised the Committee that the IMLI Governing Board expressed its appreciation to all visiting fellows who taught at the Institute in the 2003/4 and 2004/5 academic years and

commended its faculty and staff for their dedicated efforts to maintain the Institute's high standards.

7.20 The Committee was also advised that, in reviewing the financial statements for the financial year 2003/4, the Governing Board welcomed IMLI's performance and considered the budgetary proposals for the years 2004/5 and 2005/6. The Governing Board approved a revised budget for 2004/5, a budget for 2005/6, pending a review at the next Board meeting in 2006 and also adopted a budget for the year 2006/7, again subject to review at its 2006 session.

7.21 In considering the future financial status of IMLI, the Board requested the Director to explore possible alternative methods to ensure the medium to long-term sustainability of the Institute and to report to the Board at its next session.

7.22 The Secretary-General recorded his appreciation to those donors whose sustained contributions, either by general donations to the Institute's funds or by the donation of fellowships, enabled IMLI to progress in the attainment of its objectives. Their contributions resulted in sufficient income to cover the Institute's expenditure for the 2004/2005 academic year.

7.23 In particular, he expressed his appreciation to The Nippon Foundation of Japan for its support, for the first time in 2004, of a total of nine fellowships and its contribution of another nine fellowships for the current academic year.

7.24 The Committee was informed of the IMLI Governing Board's appreciation of IMO support provided through the ITCP by the financing of seven and six fellowships in 2003/2004 and 2004/2005 respectively. Such support could not be overemphasized as it enabled students from countries with insufficient access to external funds to attend the Institute and benefit from its specialized programmes in the service of international maritime law.

7.25 The delegation of Egypt commended the Secretary-General, the Director of IMLI and his staff for IMLI's achievements.

7.26 The Committee noted the information provided.

### **IMO International Maritime Academy**

7.27 In introducing document TC 55/7/2, the Director, TCD, drew the Committee's attention to IMO's financial support in paragraph 6 of the document which amounted to approximately US\$225,700. The document set out the courses held in 2004 and the Academy's programme for 2005.

7.28 The Director, TCD, thanked the Government of Italy and the Province of Trieste for their support of the Academy.

7.29 The delegation of Italy informed the Committee that a total of 60 students from 60 countries had benefited from IMA's didactic activities in 2004 and more would benefit from ongoing training activities in the current year. All of these activities were funded mostly by the Government of Italy and the local Authorities, with partial funding from the European Union through the MEDA-EUMEDIS projects and IMO.

7.30 The delegation of Italy informed the Committee that the Italian commitment to IMA would continue.

7.31 The Committee expressed its appreciation for the long term support of Italy for the Academy.

### **Fellowships and other training activities**

7.32 The Director, TCD, presented document TC 55/7/3 which listed training activities administered by IMO, including the award of *ad hoc* fellowships to the development and delivery of IMO Model Courses. Such training activities benefited both the developing countries and the global maritime industry by enhancing the maritime capacity of countries through the building up of their human resource capabilities, and by increasing the industry's bank of technical expertise at national, regional and international levels.

7.33 The Committee was informed of the completion of the revision and updating of the model courses in the IMO STCW Model Course Programme. He also reported on the activities undertaken under the Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response training programme throughout the world.

7.34 The Director, TCD, further advised the Committee of the launch of a new global programme in 2005, the "Global Fellowship Programme within the ITCP", which would provide fellowship support and other training opportunities for seafarers. The programme was sourced through the transfer of residual resources from the Seafarers Memorial Trust Fund.

7.35 The Committee duly noted the information provided.

## **8 PROGRAMME ON THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN THE MARITIME SECTOR**

8.1 The Committee was provided with a status report on the implementation of the Programme for the Integration of Women in the Maritime Sector (IWMS) from January to December 2004. Financed through TC Fund, the IWMS activities included the provision of short-term fellowships for women, and an on-going series of regional workshops, a strategy which was strongly supported by the 2001 donor Impact Assessment Exercise as a means of enhancing the visibility and impact of women in the maritime industry while at the same time strengthening the resource capacities of that industry. Those activities addressed the third and fourth objectives of the IWMS programme, namely to increase the percentage of women at the senior management level within the maritime sector; and to promote women's economic self-reliance, including access to employment.

8.2 Following the successful outcome of an initial series of workshops held in Cape Verde, Egypt, Malawi, and Mexico, the regional seminar for the Pacific Islands on "The Role of Women in the Maritime Sector: Opportunities and Challenges", hosted by Samoa in 2003, resulted in the adoption of a regional Resolution on "Strategies for enhancing the role of women of the Pacific Islands in the maritime sector" and in the subsequent establishment, in February 2005, of the formal Pacific Women in Maritime Association (WIMA), to promote information and opportunities and the active participation of women in the maritime sector.

8.3 Initial discussions had also taken place with a view to establishing a formal association in the West and Central Africa sub-region for professional women in the port sector. Preliminary

discussions were initiated at the 28th Annual Council and 4th Round Table of the Port Management Association of West and Central Africa (PMAWCA), in February 2005.

8.4 Since the establishment of an IMO Women in Development programme in 1988, a great deal had been achieved in terms of making gender-awareness part of the culture in technical co-operation, resulting in an increase in the appointment of women at the management level of national maritime and port authorities.

8.5 The relevance of this issue to national administrations was highlighted by a number of delegations who spoke of the increased participation of women at the senior management and director level within their regions, and referred, in some cases, to the equal training opportunities provided to women who wished to train for maritime and seafaring careers. Wide support was expressed for the programme implemented by the Secretariat and the results achieved to-date, although much still remained to be done to secure an equitable approach to the training and employment of women in the maritime industry. Specific concern was articulated regarding the ongoing challenges of achieving equal access to senior maritime posts.

8.6 Referring to the ongoing discussions regarding the possible establishment of a formal association for women in West and Central Africa ports, a number of delegations urged the Committee to support this excellent initiative, and it was proposed that consideration should be given to widening the scope beyond that of the ports to include the maritime industry as a whole in this endeavour.

8.7 The Committee's attention was drawn to the importance of fostering close collaboration with UN agencies involved in the gender issue, including UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and UN International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW). As a member of the Inter-agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE), and a contributor to the Beijing Platform of Action, the Secretariat welcomed the Committee's support for the strengthening of inter-agency partnerships.

8.8 The Committee took note of the report on the implementation activities undertaken under the Programme for the Integration of Women in the Maritime Sector (IWMS) from January to December 2004.

## **9 ACCESS TO IMO INSTRUMENTS IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT**

9.1 The Committee had before it document TC 55/9, which was a report on the analyses of the results of the pilot scheme for access to certain IMO instruments in electronic format as extended on the recommendation of the fifty-fourth session of the Committee. The report included statistics on downloads up to February 2005, an analysis of the statistics by industry sector and geographical region, and an evaluation of the project.

9.2 The Director, AD, introduced document TC 55/9 and referred the Committee to Council documents C 94/3(e)/3 which contained a detailed final report after the scheduled end of the pilot scheme for electronic access to certain IMO instruments, as requested by the Council at its ninety-second session. The figures in the document C 94/3(e)/3 covered the 18-month period from July 2003 to December 2004 with supplementary data during the period August 2004 to February 2005 when texts in other official languages were uploaded.

9.3 The Director, AD, recalled that the original aim of making these texts available online was to assist Member States, particularly those in developing countries, in their efforts to

implement IMO instruments. The study had however established that no obvious change had been observed in the pattern of adoption of, ratification, or accession to, the relevant IMO instruments during the course of the pilot scheme and that the main beneficiaries of the scheme had been the private sector and users in developed countries. The Committee was informed that the conclusions of the study were broadly similar to those of the earlier interim report. It was noted that after the addition of the remaining five official languages, more than 90% of all downloads were in English, which reflected, incidentally, the pattern of sales of IMO publications. The addition of official languages other than English had not had a significant effect on any of the observed patterns.

9.4 In summing up his presentation, the Director, AD, informed the Committee that the pilot scheme continued for a year and a half, and, as requested, files had continued to be available until June 2005, making nearly two years in all. The Committee noted that the objectives of the pilot scheme, though worthy, had not been realized, perhaps because this was not the best way to make IMO's basic texts available to its various constituencies, particularly those in developing countries. No obvious correlation was found between downloads and sales of publications.

9.5 Some delegations observed that they had initially supported the scheme because of the intended objective of assisting developing countries in gaining access to IMO instruments. The results of the analysis had shown that the intended beneficiaries had not benefited from the scheme. They suggested that the scheme should be discontinued and other means of assisting developing countries sought.

9.6 Many delegations expressed the view that the scheme should continue, and should no longer be referred to as a pilot, because it was a service provided to the international community that included students, the public sector and the private sector.

9.7 Some delegations pointed out that they had difficulties in accessing downloads in languages other than English and that could be the reason why more than 90% of all downloads were in English. It was also noted by some delegations that many developing countries lacked facilities for accessing the documents online and that it might be useful to carry out an analysis of why the target group had not benefited from the scheme. Another delegation was of the opinion that while this programme could continue, it was important to consider introducing the two-tier approach on the provision of information/services whereby it could be free to intended targets, i.e. students and the public sector, and corporate institutions could be charged fees.

9.8 One delegation pointed out that, taking into account the debate by the Committee, and notwithstanding the original objective of the pilot scheme, it would appear that the issue of access to IMO Instruments in electronic format could be considered as having three elements:

- .1 Outreach of the Organization
- .2 Service, and
- .3 Technical co-operation

The same delegation stated that if the outcome of the pilot scheme were to be considered in the context of the original objective, then the scheme should be discontinued.

9.9 The Director, TCD further reminded the Committee that IMO provided a certain number of free publications to all maritime administrations of IMO Member States during the delivery of

ITCP seminars/workshops. It was estimated that between 25-30% of the budget of conducting seminars was devoted to making available free publications.

9.10 The Committee took note of the information submitted by the Secretariat and the conclusions of the final report on the pilot scheme for electronic access to certain IMO texts which had established that the main beneficiaries of the pilot scheme had continued to be the private sector and users in developed countries. The Committee agreed to recommend to the Council that:

- .1 the scheme should be maintained;
- .2 an impact assessment be carried out within the framework of the ITCP to determine why developing countries were not benefiting from the scheme and what further means could be introduced to ensure that developing countries' administrations could obtain relevant IMO publications free of charge; and
- .3 to look into the possibility of introducing a corporate charge (private sector) to access the instruments online.

## **10 FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE COMMITTEE**

10.1 The Committee was informed of the outcome of the fourth session of the *ad hoc* Council Working Group on the Organization's Strategic Plan (TC 55/10) with respect to the development of a high-level action plan for 2006-2007. It was noted that there should be a linkage between the strategic directions, the high-level action plan and the work programmes of the Committees.

10.2 The Committee noted that, unlike other Committees, its work, in the main, consisted of discharging its oversight functions on a continuing basis with generic agenda items relating to ITCP programming, annual reporting on implementation, TC Fund allocation, delivery mechanism (partnerships and regional co-ordination and delivery), resource mobilization, long-term sustainable financing, etc. considered on a biennial cyclical basis.

10.3 The Committee reviewed the draft high-level action plan set out in annex 1 of TC 55/10 related to its work and the outcome-based priorities for the Committee for the biennium 2006-2007 contained in annex 2.

10.4 The Committee agreed in principle with the high-level action plan and draft output priorities of the Committee, however, the Committee also agreed that considerable improvement could be made in particular with respect to the planned outputs on the basis of suggestions made during the limited time which was available to the Committee to consider this important item.

10.5 Examples of suggested changes to the planned output 2006-2007 (annex 2) put forward are as follows:

- 1.1.2 "establish a conceptual linkage of the goals of the ITCP with the achievement of relevant MDGs".
- 2.1 "encourage implementation of technical and operational safety aspects of fishing vessels in developing countries".



2.3 “continued inclusion in the ITCP of programmes contributing to the worldwide provision of maritime search and rescue services”.

3.3.1 “enhancement of the effectiveness of the regional co-ordinators offices”.

4.3 “an analysis of the ability of developing countries to access information to facilitate their implementation of IMO instruments”.

6.1.1 “training methodologies and aids targeted on the special needs of developing countries”.

6.2.2 “inclusion of piracy and armed robbery in ITCP programmes on maritime security”.

10.6 The Committee requested the Secretariat to bring these and other suggested changes to the attention of the Council Working Group on the Organization’s Strategic Plan (September 2005) recognizing that the proposed high-level action plan, as well as the planned outputs of the Committees, would be submitted to the Assembly for consideration thereby affording Member States the opportunity to make any further amendments if required.

## **11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

11.1 The Committee had before it document TC 55/INF.3 on “Investing in Development: A practical plan to achieve the Millennium Development Goals”.

11.2 The Director, TCD, introduced the document and informed the Committee that it was largely for information. The Committee recalled that the Millennium Development Goals, adopted at the United Nations Millennium Summit in 2000, were the world’s targets for dramatically reducing extreme poverty in its many dimensions by 2015 – income poverty, hunger, disease, exclusion, lack of infrastructure and shelter – while promoting gender equality, education, health and environmental sustainability.

11.3 The Director, TCD, indicated that the UN Millennium Project was commissioned by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan to develop a practical plan of action to meet the Millennium Development Goals. As an independent advisory body directed by Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs, the UN Millennium Project submitted its recommendations to the UN Secretary-General in January 2005. Attached to document TC 55/INF.3 was one copy of the Overview of the Report to the UN Secretary-General “Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals”. The Committee’s attention was drawn to the recognition that international trade could be a powerful driver of economic growth and poverty reduction. However, there needed to be increased investment in infrastructure (roads, electricity, ports and trade facilitation) to improve export competitiveness in developing countries.

11.4 The Committee took note of the information provided.

## 12 ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND THE VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2006

12.1 In accordance with Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure of the Technical Co-operation Committee, the Committee elects its officers once a year.

12.2 The Committee was informed that the present Chairman, Mr. Ben Owusu-Mensah (Ghana) was available for re-election and that the Committee's Vice-Chairman, Mr. Pablo Alejandro Constanzó Escobar (Argentina) had indicated that he was not available for re-election for 2006.

12.3 The Committee re-elected Mr. Ben Owusu-Mensah (Ghana) as Chairman and elected Mr. Fikret Hakguden (Turkey) as Vice-Chairman, both by acclamation.

## 13 ACTION REQUESTED OF THE COUNCIL

The Council was invited to:

- .1 note that the Committee agreed changes in its rules of procedures providing that representatives of the media attended meetings of the Committee in accordance with the guidelines for media access to meetings of Committees and their subsidiary bodies (paragraph 2.7);
- .2 note that the Committee agreed in principle to the establishment of a ship recycling fund proposed by the MEPC on the understanding that when the Fund was established detailed information was *inter alia* provided on the specific purposes for which the Fund would be used (paragraph 2.16);
- .3 note that the Committee agreed that a sum of \$500,000 should be allocated from the TC Fund reserves to support capacity-building activities related to the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme through the ITCP for 2006-2007 (paragraph 3.2.9);
- .4 note that the Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare an analysis of the impact of financing the capacity-building aspects of the Scheme on the TC Fund beyond 2007 (paragraph 3.4.7);
- .5 note that the Committee endorsed the joint MSC/MEPC/TCC Working Group's report, in particular the text of Section 9 of the draft Framework, on technical co-operation and the draft Assembly resolution (paragraph 3.2.10);
- .6 note that the Committee endorsed the ITCP for 2006-2007 (paragraph 3.3.14);
- .7 approve the use of the TC Fund for the proposed activities under the ITCP for 2006-2007, and the biennial allocation of £ 5,155,400 from the TC Fund for that purpose (paragraph 3.4.11);
- .8 approve the proposal to transfer £3 million from the surplus of the Printing Fund to the TC Fund during the biennium (paragraph 3.4.11);

- .9 authorize the Secretary-General to use the un-programmed funds of the TC Fund, during the next biennium, should demands or partnership opportunities arise (paragraph 3.4.11);
- .10 note the following five precepts which would form the basis of the formulation of the Organization's technical co-operation resource strategy (paragraph 4.12):
  - .1 **ensuring** that the TC Fund is maintained as a core fund to support the delivery of the primary activities of the biennial ITCP, and as a means to attract cost-sharing participation from external donor countries and organizations;
  - .2 **maximizing** the cost-effectiveness of our delivery mechanism – i.e. by reducing costs without lowering the quality of the services provided;
  - .3 **establishing** an equitable financial mechanism which can ensure the sustainability of a certain minimum level or core capacity of the Organization to respond to the emerging technical assistance needs of developing member countries;
  - .4 **mobilizing** external financial and in-kind support through partnerships with Member States, organizations and industry, to supplement the core funding of the ITCP;
  - .5 **sharing** responsibility for resource mobilization.
- .11 note the need for the Committee to continue to address the issue of developing an equitable mechanism to ensure the sustainable financing of the ITCP (paragraph 4.11);
- .12 note the successful implementation of Assembly resolution A.965(23) on the “Development and Improvement of Partnership Arrangements for Technical Co-operation” and the need to secure external financial and in-kind support before expanding the regional presence scheme (paragraph 6.30);
- .13 note the approval by the Committee of the high level action plan with respect to technical co-operation and its planned output for 2006-2007 (paragraph 10.4);
- .14 note the Committee's recommendation that (paragraph 9.10):
  - .1 the access to IMO instruments in electronic format scheme should be maintained;
  - .2 an impact assessment be carried out within the framework of the ITCP to determine why developing countries were not benefiting from the scheme and what further means could be introduced to ensure that developing countries' Administrations could obtain relevant IMO publications free of charge; and
  - .3 the possibility of introducing a corporate charge (private sector) to access the instruments online be examined.

- .15 note the summary of the Committee's report on its fifty-fifth session (C 94/11/Add.1), and make such comments and give such guidance to the Committee, as it deems appropriate; and
  - .16 authorize the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Committee's fifty-fifth session, with its comments and recommendations, to the twenty-fourth session of the Assembly, in accordance with Article 21(b) of the IMO Convention.
-