



## **PRESS RELEASE MARITIME OPEN DAY 2017**

Every year the International Maritime Organization and the International Hydrographic Organization celebrate the World Maritime Day, Day of Seafarers and the World Hydrographic Day. A theme is linked to each day. The member states are free to fill in the theme.

To celebrate abovementioned days the Maritime Authority Suriname (MAS) organized a Maritime Open Day on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November. Schools around the MAS were invited to attend the Maritime Open Day. The event was attended by around 250 students from the advanced elementary education, the Institute for Natural Sciences and the Surinam Maritime Institute. The groups of students were excited to be informed regarding the maritime developments in Suriname. The role of the MAS is clearly reflected in the themes. The Suriname Coast Guard, which has his Head Quarters at the MAS emplacement attributed to a successful event.

This year's theme for Day of the Seafarer is "Seafarers Matter". Seafarers are essential to our daily lives transporting more than 80 per cent of global trade by ships to people and communities all over the world. Seafarers are responsible for the operations of ships and the safe and smooth delivery of the cargo.

The theme for World Maritime Day is: "Connecting Ships, Ports and People". With this theme, IMO wants the maritime sector, including shipping, ports and the people they operate, to play an important role, by helping Member States create conditions for more employment, prosperity and stability ashore. This can be achieved through trade by sea; strengthening the port and maritime sector as wealth developers, both on land and through the development of a sustainable blue economy at sea.

The theme for World Hydrography Day 2017 is: "Mapping our seas, ocean and waterways - more important than ever". This year again emphasizes the importance of hydrography for the safety of seas, rivers and waterways for shipping.

The Maritime Open Day will be an annual recurring event. Maritime-related companies and schools can contact the Marketing & Communication department of the MAS for more information regarding the Maritime Open Day 2018.

Paramaribo, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
Marketing & Communication department





