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IHB File No. S3/7020

6 October 2010

S-23 WG Letter No. 04/2010

**Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the S-23 WG
(Singapore, 5-7 July 2010)**

To: Participants in the 2nd S-23 WG Meeting

References: a) S-23 WG Letter 03/2010 dated 13 July 2010 *Follow-up to the 2nd Meeting of the S-23 WG*
b) IHB e-mail of 27 July sending draft minutes of the 2nd S-23 WG meeting

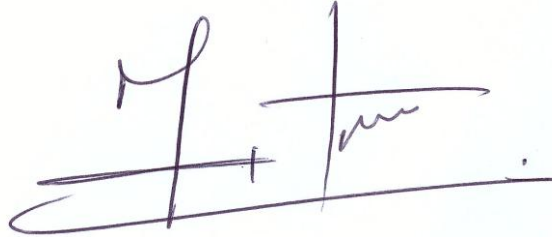
Dear participants in the 2nd meeting of the S-23 WG,

The Chair and the Secretary would like to thank those who provided their comments to the first draft of the minutes of the 2nd meeting of the S-23 WG that took place in Singapore in late July, i.e. Australia, China, France, Japan, Oman, Rep of Korea, Singapore, UK and USA. The responses and comments provided have been posted on the IHO website under the S-23 WG section. The Chair and Secretary considered very carefully the comments provided and have updated/improved the first draft minutes. The resulting second draft minutes have been posted on the IHO website for your consideration (see http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/com_wg/S-23WG/S-23WG2/Minutes/S-23WG2_Minutes.htm). The Chair and Secretary would like to bring to the attention of participants the following issues that have been considered in preparing the second draft minutes:

1. Editorial changes and improved wording have been made, as provided by some of the participants for their statements and positions reflected in the first draft minutes. Associated comments inform on the originators of those changes;
2. Proposals were made by some participants to delete or modify statements made by other participants. These changes have been considered very carefully and are included in the second draft minutes only in cases when they do not alter the main positions expressed, but contribute to better understanding of the issue;
3. Some comments for changes provided by China in paragraphs 11.2.a and 11.2.j have not been included in the second draft minutes, as no comments for those changes have been received from the relevant participants, and that the Chair and Secretary feel that the current wording reflects the outcome of the discussions.

Participants in reviewing the 2nd draft minutes are requested to consider the detail comments provided and posted on the IHO web site, the above issues highlighted by the Chair and the Secretary and especially those provided by China on the issues of the above bullet 3. Comments are requested **by 31 October 2010**.

The actions from the 2nd S-23 WG meeting, as listed at Annex I to the minutes, will be the subject of a separate S-23 WG letter addressed to all S-23 WG members. Meanwhile, participants are invited to consult the websites provided by China regarding Action no. 3 on the issue in paragraph 11.2.c and relating to the China-Vietnam agreement on the “Beibu Gulf” (see China’s e-mail sending their comments, on the IHO website).

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of stylized, overlapping letters and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS,
IHB President and Chairman of the S-23 WG