



CASA 55th
1966 - 2021
Anniversary

in conjunction with the

WORLD Maritime Day 2021



Message from the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Sri Lanka

Maritime Sectional committee of CILT Sri Lanka



The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport

The World Maritime Day is observed under the aegis of the International Maritime Organisation in the last week of September. It is the day when we focus on the singular contribution of the world maritime industry towards the overall global economy; and therefore, the wellbeing of all mankind.

The maritime industry facilitates more than 80% of global trade. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the vitality and the centrality of world's merchant shipping in moving medical supplies, essential foods and all necessities for human survival and wellbeing. The maritime industry, in short, underwrites the success of our response to the pandemic and our post-pandemic recovery.

This year, the International Maritime Organisation has decided to adopt the theme, "Seafarers at the core of shipping's future" in observing the World Maritime Day. This is indeed a theme that is of timely relevance as it gratefully recognises the priceless value of the work performed by seafarers of all nationalities to keep the world economy afloat and breathing.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed seafarers to challenges that were unprecedented. The 2021 observance of the World Maritime Day will focus on issues that affect seafarers across the globe. The World Maritime University has compiled an exhaustive report on seafarers' experiences during the current pandemic. Its initial findings deserve a serious study in order to adopt remedial measures.

The report urges ship operators and owners to adopt the following: implement effective protective measures while

ensuring medical care; provide viable repatriation plans; ensure fast and reliable Internet on board for seafarers' personal use; provide easy access to essential supplies and support when needed, including medical care, mental health support, essential goods, as well as possibilities for shore leave; and introduce a fatigue risk management system.

The report also urges Governments to adopt the following recommendations: recognize seafarers as key workers to facilitate crew changes; allow shore to leave and provide access to shore-based services; and ensure vessels' continued compliance with international laws and regulations such as the Maritime Labour Convention and Safety of Life at Sea Convention (SOLAS).

There are nearly two million seafarers worldwide who make it possible for us to receive the goods and products needed in our everyday lives. Ensuring the wellbeing of seafarers will protect the future of all humanity in surviving and recovering from this pandemic and the global economic downturn. In this endeavour, CILT Sri Lanka is an ardent advocate and promoter, and calls upon all stakeholders to do their part to keep the world's shipping trade and routes active and vibrant whilst guaranteeing the safety and security of every person who plays a vital role in the global maritime industry.

The Chartered Institute of Logistics and

Transport (CILT) is a leading global professional body associated with the logistics and transport industry. Established in the United Kingdom (UK) in 1919, and having received the Royal Charter in 1926, the Institute has an exciting history that is always adapting to stay consistent with current issues and opportunities. CILT holds unparalleled international recognition and works towards achieving its objectives of promoting and encouraging the art and science of logistics and transport through its membership and its educational qualifications. With a global membership of over 33,000 from 33 countries, CILT provides a professional identity to those in the ever-expanding logistics and transport sector. CILT Sri Lanka was established in 1984 and incorporated by the parliamentary act no. 08 of 2000. In 2012, CILT Sri Lanka was upgraded the status of a Territory. In doing so, CILT Sri Lanka cemented its position as an Institution that espouses high standards of performance, governance, and membership development. To engage with CILT Sri Lanka, visit www.ciltsl.com

Chandima Hulangamuwa
Council Member of CILT SL
Chairman of the Maritime Sectional Committee
Managing Director,
MSC Lanka (Pvt) Ltd



IMO launches a year of action for seafarers

The World Maritime Theme for 2021 is dedicated to seafarers, highlighting their central role in the future of shipping.

IMO has chosen to make 2021 a year of action for seafarers, who are facing unprecedented hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic, despite their vital role as key workers for global supply chains. The World Maritime Theme for 2021, "Seafarers: at the core of shipping's future" seeks to increase the visibility of seafarers by drawing attention to the invaluable role they play now and will continue to play in the future.

The COVID-19 pandemic has placed extraordinary demands on seafarers, with hundreds of thousands of men and women stranded on ships for months beyond their original contracts, unable to be repatriated due to national travel restrictions. A similar number of seafarers are unable to join ships and earn a living. This crew change crisis, which has been ongoing for nearly a year, is a humanitarian emergency that threatens the safety of shipping.

Launching the World Maritime theme on 16 February, IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim said more Governments must step up to end the crew change crisis.

"We all must do better to support our brave professionals who continue to deliver global trade. The dedication and professionalism of more than one and a half million seafarers worldwide deserve our great admiration and gratitude - but most importantly,

immediate action," Lim said. "A first step would be for all countries to designate seafarers as key workers, as outlined in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution adopted in December," Lim added, referring to the UNGA resolution on International cooperation to address challenges faced by seafarers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic to support global supply chains. Key worker designation is crucial to ensure seafarers can travel to and from ships and will facilitate access to priority vaccination. To date, 55 IMO Member States and two Associate Members have designated seafarers as key workers.

Throughout the year, the World Maritime Theme will also put the spotlight on other issues related to the human element of shipping, including the safety and security of life on board ships, seafarers' well-being, and the importance of ensuring an appropriately trained and qualified workforce, ready to meet the challenges and opportunities of digitalization and automation.

The focus on seafarers is also in line with the work carried out by the Organization, since the beginning of the pandemic and before. "At IMO, seafarers have always been at the centre of all our work - be it in the area of safety, maritime security, or environmental protection," IMO Secretary-General said.

The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic will be discussed by the Sub-Committee on Human element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW), which is taking place this week (15-19 February).

Kitack Lim
Secretary General
International Maritime Organization (IMO)



Shattering the glass ceiling Women transforming the Maritime Landscape

The maritime industry has been instrumental in the transformation of international trade and growth of global economies. Majority of global trade volumes are being transported by sea making maritime service providers essential in the upkeep of modern-day livelihoods.

Despite its importance, the maritime industry for many years has been perceived as a "masculine industry" with limited career opportunities for women. The notion that the industry calls for labor intensive job roles has discouraged many women from even considering a career in the industry. However, with women increasingly proving their worth in uplifting communities, businesses and nations, female representation in the maritime industry has also seen a gradual rise over recent years. Increasingly we hear of the success stories of more women taking on the challenges of the industry and succeeding at every-level beyond imaginable.

Female participation in the global maritime industry varies across different job roles. The Sri Lankan maritime industry is no exception to this trend. Today we are proud to have female

gantry operators, engineers, operation executives, accountants, senior managers etc. transforming Ports, Terminals and Shipping operations across the island. Nevertheless, the full potential is yet to be realized as females taking on these career opportunities are still relatively few in numbers. Stereotyping social norms and archaic regulations discourage women from engaging in certain job roles especially within the Ports and Terminals sector of the country with operations spanning across 24/7/365. Despite the challenge, the determination of women and the change in mindset of the businesses within the industry have paved the way for the determined women who have challenged norms and ventured into these non-traditional roles.

The active promotion of female participation extends further than short term initiatives. Pioneers in the industry especially in Ports and Terminals are doing their part and have introduced or changed policies and operational procedures to provide a conducive working environment to sustain and enhance female participation in the long term. Sexual harassment policies, flexible working hours, staff transportation, child-care support, peer support and mentor programs have been implemented by leading terminals to empower women who dare to be pathfinders and make a difference. Organizations such as the International

Maritime Organization (IMO), Women in Logistics and Transport (WILAT) and Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA) have been at the forefront of advocating for gender balance and enhancing opportunities for females in the maritime sector around the world. Increasingly Maritime businesses in Sri Lanka have joined hands with these organizations to enable career opportunities for women in the industry.

Women in the Sri Lankan maritime industry have not only made their mark in their organizations but have steered through to become CEO of conglomerates and chairperson of local and international organizations such as WILAT global. We recently witnessed a paradigm shift in the industry with the appointment of the first female chairman of Ceylon Association of Shipping Agents (CASA).

The opportunities for females within the maritime industry in Sri Lanka and globally are endless. Opportunities based on the most capable human being on a level-playing field for all. That is all that is needed. To the many women who continue to shatter the glass ceiling each day in all corners of the earth, We say - RESPECT!

Udara Cumaratunga
Manager
Commercial & Marketing, SAGT
Member of CILT Sri Lanka
WILAT Sri Lanka & WISTA Sri Lanka



WISTA, Empowering Women in the Maritime Industry

Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA), Sri Lanka celebrates yet another Maritime Day with Ceylon Association of Shipping Agents (CASA) on 30th of September 2021 and congratulates the Ceylon Association of Shipping Agents (CASA) for its 55th anniversary.

WISTA is proud to be an associate member of CASA and has been instrumental in spearheading many joint initiatives in the past to be a voice of the female participation in the maritime industry. WISTA is well supported by its Corporate Partner South Asia Gateway Terminals (SAGT) and represented by a strong representation of females in the Maritime, Logistics and Transportation Sectors in the Country. These programs have been tailor made to empower women in the Industry. The Association has also been in the forefront of capturing and educating all professionals in the Industry on trending topics and

technological innovations. As this year's World Maritime Day has been dedicated to Seafarers with their gallantry efforts in facing unprecedented challenges due to COVID-19 pandemic, providing uninterrupted supply chain solutions connecting the world, WISTA salutes these very special individuals. As supply chains were disrupted across continents it had a similar effect on thousands of men and women stranded on Ships for months beyond their original contracts and unable to travel due to restrictions. WISTA understands the need to ensure the safety and well being of all in this industry as they play a key role in ensuring uninterrupted supply chains and on time logistics. WISTA also firmly believes that its time to prepare its teams and processes to embrace automation and digitization to be agile in a dynamic environment where flexibility is a key differentiator.

Speaking of this occasion WISTA Sri Lanka President Nilu Mediwake Wickremasinghe sends congratulations to the Ceylon Association of Shipping Agents (CASA) for its 55th anniversary. She stressed on the importance of Companies focusing on this year's theme and paid tribute to all the

heroes in Shipping, Transportation and Logistics Industries. She also stressed that Companies need to take pro-active measures to provide all facilities to seafarers and have their mental well being a key focus area.

About WISTA

WISTA Sri Lanka is a member of WISTA International which is a global organization connecting female executives and decision makers around the world. WISTA International serves as a connector for its network of more than 3,000 female professionals from all sectors of the maritime industry. More than 40 countries support the National WISTA Association (NWA), each of which in turn is a member of and is guided by WISTA International. WISTA International has received Consultative Status by The International Maritime Organization's (IMO) governing body, the IMO Council. This gives WISTA an opportunity to promote diversity, inclusion and women's empowerment in the Industry.

Nilu Mediwake Wickremasinghe
President, WISTA Sri Lanka
Director,
SALOTA International (Pvt) Ltd.

IMO - Supporting seafarers on the frontline of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has put seafarers around the world in precarious situations. As of July 2021, it is estimated that 250,000 seafarers are currently stranded on ships beyond the end of their original contracts and unable to be repatriated, due to COVID-related travel restrictions. A similar number of seafarers are stuck at home, unable to join ships and provide for their families.

IMO's Seafarer Crisis Action Team (SCAT) is working to help resolve individual cases, alongside other organizations like the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) and the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). IMO's SCAT team works around the clock - contacting representatives from national governments, NGOs, trade unions or relevant associations, or orienting seafarers towards the right organisation, to find solutions. To date SCAT has dealt with over 500 cases involving thousands of individual seafarers.

Seafarers and their relatives can contact the SCAT by sending an email to info@imo.org

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

