**MESSAGE FROM THE IMO SECRETARY GENERAL**

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the first edition of a new newsletter for the Global MTCC Network (GMN project), which will keep all participants and stakeholders up to date with progress and developments as this important initiative reaches and passes its key milestones and helps lead shipping on the path to energy efficiency and sustainability.

The GMN project brings together two of the most important themes that IMO and its Member States must pursue as we move into a new era – developing new technology and building the capacity, especially in the developing world, to bring about that technology and use it to its best advantage.

The overall objective of the GMN project is to help beneficiary countries limit and reduce GHG emissions from their shipping sectors. It will encourage the uptake of innovative energy-efficiency technologies among a large number of users, through the widespread dissemination of technical information and know-how.

The project’s regional centres (MTCCs) are already starting to provide leadership in promoting ship energy-efficiency technologies and operations, and the reduction of harmful emissions from ships. All the MTCCs have made strong commitments to reach out and build capacity in their regions, especially among the least developed countries. Ensuring that the benefits of a regional MTCC are spread throughout the region will be an important element in the project’s overall success.

This is a genuinely exciting prospect and one which complements perfectly the regulatory work on this vital topic which IMO is continuing to drive forward. The mutually-agreed project milestones that the MTCCs will deliver during the course of this project will make a significant contribution to IMO’s widespread efforts to ensure effective implementation and enforcement of the global energy-efficiency regulations for international shipping.

I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to all those involved in the project, particularly the European Union who have provided the funding, for what will become a truly global network of maritime technology centres. It demonstrates to the world what can be achieved if like-minded organizations commit to delivering as one on the key issues that affect our world today.

Kitack Lim
IMO Secretary-General

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**MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR**

It is my pleasure to offer you this first bi-annual newsletter of the Global MTCC Network (GMN Project). Funded by the European Union and implemented by the International Maritime Organization, this initiative supports the Global Network of Maritime Technologies Cooperation Centres (MTCCs). The MTCCs, together, are promoting energy efficiency in the maritime sector to navigate shipping into a low-carbon future through tailored capacity building activities and pilot projects on low-carbon technologies in shipping.

In this issue you have an opportunity to learn about the GMN initiative and how MTCCs, although located in different parts of the world, join their efforts to tackle climate change issues. Depending on the needs and context of the specific region, each MTCC whether in Africa, Asia, Caribbean, Latin America, or Pacific has its unique work program and activities that contributes to the common goal. This newsletter provides details on the achievements between January and July of this year and previews the upcoming programs.

The GMN is managed by the Project Coordination Unit based at IMO Headquarters in London. This unit works towards the long term success and sustainability of the Global MTCC Network.

To reach its objectives, the GMN is partnering with academic institutions and shipping companies, government departments and authorities as well as other organizations that are interested and ready to work on GHG emissions from shipping.

I feel privileged to be leading the GMN team, and I hope you will be actively engaged in this innovative project as well. Your ideas and support to the GMN are crucial in ensuring a long-lasting impact of the MTCCs’ work and the sustainability of the GMN.

I hope you enjoy this first newsletter and if there are any topics you would like us to elaborate on in future please let us know.

Tamar Barabadze
GMN Project Manager

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**ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN SHIPPING – WHY IT MATTERS**

The world relies on international shipping to move food, commodities, raw materials, energy and consumer goods reliably and effectively around the globe at low cost per unit or per tonne.

Global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from shipping rely heavily on improvements in energy efficiency and increased uptake of low-carbon technologies. Better energy efficiency means less fuel is used, and that means lower emissions.

Studies suggest that ships’ energy consumption and CO₂ emissions could be reduced by up to 75% by applying operational measures and implementing existing technologies. Important in this context is MARPOL Annex VI, which regulates the air pollution being emitted by ships, including the emission of ozone-depleting substances.

Of particular relevance to the GMN is Regulation 23 of MARPOL Annex VI regarding the promotion of technical cooperation and the energy efficiency of ships.

With its objectives closely aligned with international regulation, the GMN Project aims to be at the cutting edge of climate change mitigation – and, at the same time, open up a world of opportunities for those who participate in it.
To address global challenges, including climate change mitigation, the 193 Member States of the United Nations unanimously adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs - bottom right) and 169 related targets. The SDGs apply to all countries and, by adopting the Agenda, States have committed to mobilize efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind - by 2030. The Agenda emphasizes the need to simultaneously consider the social, economic and environmental aspects of sustainable development.

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres (below right), speaking at the UN Ocean Conference in June 2017, said that “Improving the health of our oceans is a test for multilateralism, and we cannot afford to fail”.

This chimes with sentiments expressed by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Secretary-General, Kitack Lim, when talking about the 2017 World Maritime Day theme (Connecting ships, ports and people): “Ultimately, more efficient shipping, working in partnership with the port sector supported by governments, will be a major driver towards global stability and sustainable development for the good of all people.”

The GMN project is an emblematic example of how cross-organizational and regional cooperation can work to support the mitigation of climate change, and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

Developing countries and, in particular, Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), will be the main beneficiaries of this ambitious initiative.

The aim of the project is to help beneficiary countries limit and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from their shipping sectors through technical assistance and capacity building. It encourages the uptake of innovative energy-efficiency technologies among a large number of users through the widespread dissemination of technical information and know-how. This will heighten the impact of technology transfer.

The four-year project is targeting five regions - Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America and the Pacific. These have been targeted for their significant number of LDCs and SIDS.

Carefully selected to become centres of excellence for their regions, the MTCCs are focusing on technical cooperation, capacity building and technology transfer. Supported by IMO and EU, the MTCCs act as regional focal points for a wide range of activities to:

- improve compliance with existing and future international energy-efficiency regulations
- help participating countries develop national energy-efficiency policies and measures for their maritime sectors
- promote the uptake of low-carbon technologies and operations in maritime transport
- establish voluntary pilot data-collection and reporting systems to feed back into the global regulatory process.

The five host institutions are:

**MTCC-CARIBBEAN**
University of Trinidad and Tobago, Trinidad and Tobago

**MTCC-AFRICA**
Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), Kenya

**MTCC-PACIFIC**
Pacific Community (SPC) in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), Fiji

**MTCC-LATIN AMERICA**
International Maritime University of Panama (UMIP), Panama

**MTCC-ASIA**
Shanghai Maritime University, China
### 2016-2017 DELIVERED ACTIVITIES

**DECEMBER 2016 - MTCC-ASIA AND MTCC-CARIBBEAN CONFIRMED**

IMO announced the first two institutes selected to host regional Maritime Technology Cooperation Centres (MTCCs) under the GMN project: Shanghai Maritime University (SMU) in China, MTCC-Asia, and the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT), MTCC-Caribbean. SMU is a maritime-specific university specialised in researching technology related to ship’s energy efficiency and controlling GHG emissions. UTT is a multi-campus facility that hosts specialized programmes dedicated to developmental disciplines including maritime capacity building, energy efficiency, environmental studies and marine research.

**FEBRUARY 2017 - MTCC-AFRICA ESTABLISHED**

IMO announced that Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), Kenya, was selected to host MTCC-Africa in collaboration with Kenya Ports Authority and Kenya Maritime Authority. The university provides degree courses related to maritime shipping and has a track record of engagement in regional maritime capacity building activities.

**MARCH 2017 - MTCC-CARIBBEAN LAUNCH EVENT**

MTCC-Caribbean was unveiled at UTT by the Honourable Anthony Garcia, Minister of Education of Trinidad and Tobago. Speaking at the launch event, the country’s Minister of Works and Transport, the Honourable Rohan Sinanan, endorsed the new initiative. IMO was represented at the event by Stefan Micallef, Director of the Marine Environment Division, and GMN Project Manager – Tamar Barabadze. H.E. Mr. Arend Biesebroek, Ambassador of the European Union to Trinidad and Tobago represented the European Union.

**APRIL 2017 - MTCC-LATIN AMERICA ESTABLISHED**

The International Maritime University of Panama (UMIP) was selected to host the regional MTCC-Latin America. UMIP is a public university funded by the Panamanian Government and, by law, is the official higher education institution specialized in maritime education and training of the Republic of Panama. The university’s scope involves all areas related to the maritime sector, including all aspects of shipping, coastal, marine and environmental protection.

**MAY 2017 - MTCC-PACIFIC ESTABLISHED**

IMO announced that the Pacific Community (SPC) was selected to host the regional MTCC-Pacific in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). SPC is a scientific and technical organisation supporting development in the Pacific region while SPREP is an intergovernmental environmental organisation working in the Pacific.

**MAY 2017 - GMN WEBSITE LAUNCH**

GMN launched its website (gmn.imo.org) where all information regarding the different MTCCs, events, technical documents and news regarding the project can be found. Further information is available on capacity4dev.eu (https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/climate-mitigation-in-the-maritime-shipping-industry), the European Commission’s knowledge sharing platform for development cooperation.

**MAY 2017 - MTCC-ASIA LAUNCH EVENT**

MTCC-Asia was officially opened by IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim and H.E. Mr. He Jianzhong, Vice-Minister of Transport, China and Mr. Chen Yin, Vice Mayor of Shanghai Municipal Government. Ms. Vicky Pollard, First Counsellor-Enviroment and Climate Change, Delegation of the European Union to China and Mongolia, represented the European Union. The launch event was held alongside an International Maritime Forum, attended by SMU students, officials and representatives of the maritime industry in China.

**JUNE 2017 – MTCC-CARIBBEAN FIRST REGIONAL EVENT**

MTCC-Caribbean held the first regional event under the GMN project. The Trinidad and Tobago event brought together 67 participants to discuss ways to bring shipping into a low carbon future. The event also allowed stakeholders to familiarize themselves with the project’s mission, vision and goals as well as gain deeper understanding of the project’s benefits and the different roles each will play in making the Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre of Africa (MTCC-Africa) a success.

**JUNE 2017 – GMN SEEKS STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION**

The GMN project issued a call for expressions of interest from individuals within specified organizations to become members of the GMN Project’s Global Stakeholder Committee (GSC). The Global Stakeholder Committee will meet to share ideas and provide long-term strategic guidance. Participation is on a voluntary basis and no fees are paid.

**JUNE 2017 – MTCC-AFRICA FIRST NATIONAL WORKSHOP**

GMN held its first ever national workshop in Mombasa, Kenya. The event brought together 67 participants to discuss ways to bring shipping into a low carbon future. The event also allowed stakeholders to familiarize themselves with the project’s mission, vision and goals as well as gain deeper understanding of the project’s benefits and the different roles each will play in making the Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre of Africa (MTCC-Africa) a success.

**JUNE 2017 – MTCC-CARIBBEAN FIRST REGIONAL EVENT**

MTCC-Caribbean held the first regional event under the GMN project. The Trinidad and Tobago event brought together senior maritime administrators, legal officers and technical specialists from twelve Caribbean States. Speakers provided an overview of MTCC-Caribbean and its mandate for climate change mitigation, and the role of national maritime administrations. It also focused on the region’s ratification and implementation of IMO regulations for preventing air pollution from ships (via the MARPOL Annex VI treaty).
Each MTCC is focusing on 3 key areas:

1. Capacity-building in maritime administrations, port authorities, relevant government departments and shipping sector
   
   Capacity-building activities are carried out with the main objective being to promote development of relevant national policies, ratification of MARPOL Annex VI and its implementation, compliance with existing ship energy efficiency regulations and best practices. These activities also aim to promote uptake of energy-efficient technologies and operations, data collection and assessment of needs and barriers.

2. Implementation of pilot projects on “uptake of ship energy efficient technologies and operations” and “data collection and reporting” for ship emissions, fuel consumption and energy efficiency of ships
   
   MTCC pilot projects include establishing a fuel consumption data collection system for the selected regions. In addition, specific MTCCs will also quantify the impact of greenhouse gases from the shipping industry in selected ports and waterways, demonstrate the viability of onshore power supply as an energy efficient technology for reducing GHG emissions, and updating the on-hand ship trim optimization management system.

3. Communications and dissemination
   
   Each MTCC will produce a large number of reports/documents, engage with stakeholders and carry out capacity building activities and workshops. Under this activity, results of the project will be widely publicised via dedicated websites, newsletters, brochures, guidance documents and so on.

Looking ahead

September - MTCC Asia First Regional Workshop
This workshop will bring together 14 countries from the Asian region to discuss national energy efficiency technology needs and technical barriers with regard to the effective implementation of ship energy efficiency regulations. The event will take place 18-22 September 2017 in Shanghai, China.

October - MTCC Latin America Launch
The MTCC Latin America launch will take place during the week of the 100 year anniversary celebration of the Panama Flag Registry. The event will take place on 4 October 2017 in Panama.

October - MTCC Africa Launch and First Regional Workshop
Over 30 participants from the African region are expected to participate in the MTCC Africa launch and the Regional Workshop. The events will introduce MTCC Africa’s vision and its program, and the participants will have an opportunity to discuss topics including GHG in shipping industry, MARPOL Annex VI and low carbon technologies. The events will take place 23-26 October in Mombasa, Kenya.

November - MTCC Caribbean Sub-Regional Workshop
This workshop will focus on data collection and uptake of relevant technology for the following targeted sub-region: Bahamas, Belize, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica. The event will take place 21-22 November 2017 in Kingston, Jamaica.

December - MTCC Pacific Launch and First Regional Workshop
Over 30 participants from the Pacific region are expected to participate in the MTCC Pacific launch and the Regional Workshop, during which a regional strategy for the uptake of low-carbon technology and operations will also be developed. The events will inform participants on the MTCC-Pacific work program and provide an opportunity to discuss harmonization of data collection and the reporting system for the region. The event will take place between 12-15 of December 2017 in Suva, Fiji.

December - Official Establishment of the Global MTCC Network and Technical Workshop
Early December 2017, on the sidelines of IMO’s 30th Assembly, all five MTCCs will gather at IMO HQ in London to sign a Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation. This event will officially establish the Global MTCC network. In addition, a 3-day technical workshop for MTCC will be organized. For more details on these and other events please visit www.gmn.imo.org

Progress Report

- Establishment of PCU at IMO London
- Completion of year-long competitive bidding process to identify 5 host institutions for MTCCs
- Launch events for MTCC-Asia and MTCC-Caribbean
- Launch of GMN website
- First MTCC-Africa national workshop held in Mombasa, Kenya
- First MTCC-Caribbean regional workshop held in Trinidad and Tobago
OUTREACH

GMN WEBSITE
The project has established its own distinctive website (gmn.imo.org). It provides background information on the project, progress updates, photo and video libraries, and links to the respective MTCC websites. For further information regarding the EU and its projects, visit https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/

BROCHURE

SOCIAL MEDIA
The project is promoted via IMO’s social media platforms, including Facebook and Twitter (@IMOHQ).

GMN IN THE NEWS

MIDDLE EAST SHIPTECH 2016
ME Shiptech is an international event focused on the global and regional future of the shipping industry. During the event, the participants discuss how international trade economics and shipping innovations impact the global industry and explore how these developments will impact businesses in the region. Jose Matheickal participated in the 2016 session in Dubai and had the opportunity to introduce the GMN project to the attendees from public and private sector.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SUSTAINABLE SHIPPING
IMO’s response to the needs of developing countries for building capacity and facilitating technology transfer to promote low-carbon shipping was highlighted at the Environmental Sustainable Shipping Industry Conference (ESSIC), held in Panama City, Panama (14 March 2017). The international conference was held in parallel with the Panama Maritime XIII World Conference and Exhibition. IMO’s Jose Matheickal talked about different projects, including GMN project. Vivian Rambaram-Parasram, Head of the MTCC-Caribbean, hosted by the University of Trinidad and Tobago, spoke about the vision for the MTCC for the Caribbean region. MTCC-Caribbean, the first centre to be established, was officially launched on 8 March. The ESSIC conference aimed to raise awareness within the national and international maritime industry on climate change issues and on international standards for energy efficiency, the use of new sources of energy (such as liquefied natural gas) and technology on ships.

IMO IN CHINA FOR POLICY AND REGULATION UPDATE
Green Shiptech China Congress is the annual conference hosted by Ridge China where experts and decision makers have in–depth discussion on the current IMO, EU, USCG, China MSA’s policies and regulations, designs for new ship types and innovative and sustainable green ship technologies. Addressing over 300 industry experts in April 2017, IMO’s Heike Deggim briefed the audience on the latest IMO regulations. The event provided an opportunity to present GMN project updates to the participants.

GREENTECH 2017 GREEN MARINE CONFERENCE
Green Marine’s 10th annual conference took place in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 30 May – 1 June 2017. The main topic was sustainable shipping, focusing on clean ship innovation, underwater noise, air emissions, community resilience, port development mitigation and environmental leadership. IMO’s Heike Deggim introduced participants to the GMN project and its goals.

UN OCEANS CONFERENCE – IMO VOLUNTARY COMMITMENT TO THE 2030 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA
The high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development was convened at UN Headquarters, New York (5-9 June 2017). The Conference aimed to be the game changer that will reverse the decline in the health of the oceans for people, planet and prosperity. During the conference Jose Matheickal presented the GMN project at a number of different events.

MEPC 71
During the 71st session of IMO’s Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), 3-7 July 2017, delegates were updated about recent developments with regard to major environment-related technical cooperation projects, including the GMN project. Several member states complimented the GMN progress to date and expressed their full support to this initiative.

The MEPC continued to build on the solid work the Organization has undertaken to address greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from international shipping, with work on track for the adoption of an initial IMO strategy on the reduction of GHG emissions from ships in 2018, in accordance with a roadmap approved at MEPC 70. The MEPC noted agreement within a working group on a draft outline for the structure of the initial IMO Strategy and approved terms of reference for the second (October 2017) and third (April 2018) meetings of the Inter-sessional Working Group on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships.
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**GMN**
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A global network for more-efficient shipping

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