WORLD MARITIME DAY 2015

The World Maritime Day theme for 2015 is ‘Maritime education and training’. This was adopted to focus attention on the wider spectrum of maritime education and training, in particular its adequacy and quality, as the bedrock of a safe and secure shipping industry, which needs to preserve the quality, practical skills and competence of qualified human resources, in order to ensure sustainability.

At the International Maritime Organization (IMO) the 1978 STCW Convention and Code, as amended, set the international benchmark for the training and education of seafarers. While compliance with its standards is essential for serving on board ships, the skills and competence of seafarers, and indeed, the human element ashore, can only be adequately underpinned, updated and maintained through effective maritime education and training.

Although World Maritime Day will be celebrated at IMO Headquarters on 24 September other events and activities focusing on maritime education and training are being held throughout the year.

World Maritime Day open mornings
IMO is hosting two open mornings, the first day (22 September) for primary and the second day (23 September) for secondary school students, at IMO Headquarters in London to promote the 2015 World Maritime Day theme.

Member States’ officer trainee cadets have been encouraged to attend and serve as role models for those students considering a career at sea.

Symposium: Shipping’s future needs people: Is global maritime education and training on course?
This symposium has been scheduled to take place from 1245 on 24 September at IMO Headquarters. Speakers from the shipping and maritime industry and academia will address three sessions, covering:

Session 1: Opportunities for the young generation in the maritime industry
Session 2: Seafaring as a profession
Session 3: Developing seafarer skills through quality maritime education and training

IMO Secretary-General Koji Sekimizu will open and close the Symposium. Member Governments, inter-governmental organization and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with IMO have been invited to nominate delegates to attend the symposium.