FONASBA

MINUTES OF THE LINER & PORT AGENCY COMMITTEE
PLENARY MEETING
HELD AT THE INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL BUDAPEST
AT 09.30 a.m. ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7th 2004

Present:
Mr. J.A. Good FICS Chairman, Liner & Port Agency Committee
Mr. U. Masucci President
Mr. M. Duin Vice Chairman

Mr. P. Campbell Argentina Mr. F. Carlini FICS Italy
Mr. R. Garcia Piñiero Argentina Dr. R. Corrias Italy
Mr. G. Hernandez Argentina Mr. A. Guadalupi Italy
Mr. J. Hunter Belgium Mr. B. Ferrando Italy
Mr. X. van Engelen Belgium Mr. V. Totorizzo Italy
Mr. G. Gordon Findlay Brazil Mr. F. Camisetti Italy
Mr. M. Froio Brazil Mr. T. Iigaki Japan
Mr. R.F. Machado Brazil Mr. E. Itoh Japan
Mr. A. de Goes Pereira Brazil Mr. F. Fukae Japan
Mr. V-M. Simoes Pinto Brazil Mr. Y. Itoh Japan
Mr. P. Lopes de Oliveira Brazil Mr. Y. Isobe Japan
Mr. J.C. Ribiero Gomes Brazil Mr. K. Itoh Japan
Mr. A. Zanin Brazil Mr. K. Nakae Japan
Mr. D. Pendjuroff Bulgaria Mr. V. Vacekauskas Lithuania
Mr. M. Tudor Croatia Mr. M. Andrade Gomez Mexico
Mr. C.P. Papavassiliou Cyprus Mr. J. Arriaga Vega Mexico
Mr. E. Kouzapas Cyprus Mr. A. Mantrach Morocco
Mr. G. Sarris Cyprus Mrs. G. Noer Norway
Mr. A. Houtved FICS Denmark Mr. T. Skaug Norway
Mr. T. Paulsen Denmark Capt. K. Goworowski Poland
Mr. G.J. Heinonen Finland Mr. A. Belmar da Costa Portugal
Mr. S. Lomberg Finland Mr. V. Guedes Portugal
Mr. R. Sandberg Finland Mr. J. Correia Luiz Portugal
Mr. C. Génibrel France Mr. V. Banovic Serbia & Montenegro
Mrs. F. Collet France Mr. A. Pérez-Maura Spain
Mr. F. LeBars France Mr. E. Bandelj Slovenia
Mr. K. Bültjer Germany Mr. N. Warner South Africa
Mr. P.J. Wood FICS Great Britain Mrs. B. Blomqvist Sweden
Mr. J.W. Barclay FICS Great Britain Mr. L. Chi-Ming Taiwan
Mr. J.A. Foord FICS Great Britain Mrs. M. Collins USA
Mr. G. Georgopoulos Greece Mrs. J. Cardona USA
Mr. J. Pachoulis Greece Mr. A. Mukhadri Yemen
Mr. P. Demeter Hungary Mr. P.G.D. Smith ITIC
Mr. B. Szalma Hungary Mr. G. Wramfelt MICS The Shipbrokers Register
Capt. S. Finkei Hungary
Mr. J. Dundon FICS Ireland Mr. Z. Bendjellit Algeria
Mr. N. Ganzarski Israel Mr. R. Clayton Fairplay Intl.

Observers

In Attendance
Mr. J.C. Williams FICS General Manager

Item | Action
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1/2. | President’s Welcome/ Chairman’s Opening Remarks
The President and Chairman welcomed all those present to the Meeting
Minutes of the Previous Meeting Held Istanbul, October 16th 2003

The minutes had been circulated previously and as no comments had been received in advance, or were made at the meeting, the minutes were approved.

Matters Arising Not Otherwise Covered in the Agenda

Mr. Smith asked if there had been any reports relating to the issue of bank guarantees. The Chairman replied that nothing had been brought to the attention of the Advisory Panel.

Mr. Ganzarski asked about the distribution of papers for the meetings. The Secretary advised that all those papers received in advance had been circulated to national associations and those received too late for distribution in advance would be circulated with the appropriate minutes.

The Security Committee had not been established to date. It was agreed, however, that as security was an issue for the entire industry it would remain on the agenda of all FONASBA committees for the foreseeable future.

Range Committee Reports

The Chairman asked representatives of the FONASBA Range Committees to give a brief report on the activities of the committee over the past year.

BRISCOM – Mr. Dundon reported that BRISCOM had not been able to arrange a meeting ahead of the FONASBA Annual Meeting but would be doing so in early November in London.

CIANAM – Mr. Campbell made a presentation – copy attached.

FAR EAST – Mr. Iigaki briefly summarised the committee report – copy to follow.

MABSA – Mr. Bandelj reported that the committee had held a very well attended and productive meeting on October 5th and a number of questions were put to the meeting – copy of the report and subsequent response attached.

NORDIC – Mrs. Blomqvist summarised the report that had been circulated in advance.

USA – Mrs Cardona reported on actions undertaken by ASBA on behalf of its members both within the industry and in Washington. Copy report attached.

The meeting discussed a number of the issues raised in the reports, and in particular a request from Finland for FONASBA’s support in its efforts to reduce or remove the agent’s three-year liability for additional Fairway Dues payable as a result of a reclassification of vessel’s ice classification. The Chairman suggested the Finnish Association contact the Secretariat for assistance.

Market Survey – Liner Agents Remuneration

A copy of the summary of responses received prior to the meeting had been circulated but a number of late responses had been received. The Chairman therefore asked that an updated version be circulated with the minutes (attached).

Overall the information provided was well received but the responses did not cover the entire membership. Whilst it was appreciated that a number of countries, including the US and Israel, were barred from providing the required information for legal reasons, it had been hoped that more member associations would respond.

Agents Statutory Liability for Port Charges

The latest version of the survey summary had been circulated ahead of the meeting and again a more comprehensive response had been expected. Mr. Smith said that through its correspondents ITIC had carried out a similar survey although it covered the agents liabilities in all areas. The information had been collected some years previously, however, so it may not be as accurate as it could be. The meeting then discussed a number of concerns relating to funding and other possible areas of liability.

The Chairman closed the discussion with another appeal for higher levels of support for surveys such as this. The value of such a survey was dependent on the range of responses
received. One of FONASBA’s strengths is its ability to cover the international agency industry and as a result of that coverage it should be able to collect information on a global basis. Regrettably this was not currently the case.

8. ISPS Code

It was clear that the ISPS code was now in place worldwide and further that the changes to operational procedures, both for agents and the rest of the industry, had been implemented reasonably easily. The direct impact on agents from an operational perspective was limited, in most cases to ensuring access to the port at all times. The summary on survey into the impact on agents is attached for information.

Considerable concern was expressed at both the levels of security charges being applied by ports and, more importantly, the volume of extra work being undertaken by agents in ensuring vessels complied with the port reporting and other obligations. In some countries agents were endeavouring to apply a fee for providing security information but concern was expressed that this might be seen as implying the agent had accepted liability for the accuracy of the information provided.

It was clear, however, that the increased work being undertaken by agents should attract suitable remuneration and member associations were encouraged to work with their members to achieve this aim.

9. Any Other Business

There was no other business raised by the meeting but the President took the opportunity of thanking the Chairman and his Advisory Panel for their efforts in ensuring all the major issues were covered. The Chairman also thanked his colleagues, and particular Mr Duin, for their support over the past year.

10. Date and Place of Next Meeting

The Chairman advised that the next Plenary Meeting of ECASBA would take place at the Tokyo Annual meeting in October 2005.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman brought the meeting to a close.

JCW/11.04