

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 Piñero	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. Nakaue	Japan
Mr. D. Pendjuroff	Bulgaria	Mr. V. Vaicekauskas	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	Observers	
Mr. J. Dundon FICS	Ireland	Mr. Z. Bendjellit	Algeria
Mr. N. Ganzarski	Israel	Mr. R. Clayton	Fairplay Intl.

In Attendance

Mr. J.C. Williams FICS	General Manager
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Item

1/2. **President's Welcome/ Chairman's Opening Remarks**

Action

The **President** and **Chairman** welcomed all those present to the Meeting

3. 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.**

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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