

ISSUE NO.
50
JUNE
2020



1969 - 2019
50
FONASBA,
THE FIRST FIFTY
"CELEBRATING OUR PAST.
INSPIRING OUR FUTURE"
COMMEMORATING THE FIRST FIVE DECADES
OF THE
FEDERATION OF NATIONAL
ASSOCIATIONS OF SHIP BROKERS
AND AGENTS

"FONASBA the First Fifty"
The commemorative book
published to celebrate our
50th anniversary on 23rd
April 2019.

THE NEW HORIZON



**THE FEDERATION OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS
OF SHIP BROKERS AND AGENTS**
The Baltic Exchange, St Mary Axe, London EC3A 8BH Great Britain
Tel: + 44 20 7623 3113, E-mail: generalmanager@fonasba.com
Website: www.fonasba.com

2019/20 END YEAR UPDATE

Dear All,

As stated in the President's introduction to the April Newsletter, the end of 2019/20 finds us all in a very different place from the start. The excitement that accompanied the beginning of our 50th anniversary year seems to be very far away as we struggle to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thankfully, for some of us, its impact is lessening, although others are still struggling with its deadly effects and there is a long way to go before we can all put it behind us. The way we work has been irrevocably changed by the need to contend with lockdowns, social distancing, the closure of borders and a virtual halt on many of the activities that we took for granted just six months ago. Normality will return, but it will not be the same "normal".

One bright spot in this depressing and often frightening situation is that the vital role of the global shipping industry in ensuring supply chains continue to function, has been recognised and with it the role of the ship agent and ship broker.

The purpose of this short End of Year Update is to provide an overview of the actions and activities that FONASBA has undertaken in supporting you, our Members, as well as your companies and the international ship agency and ship broking communities during the past twelve months. It also updates some of the topics covered in greater detail in the Newsletters. We hope you find it interesting, please pass it on to your member companies.

JONATHAN C. WILLIAMS FICS GENERAL MANAGER

The main highlights of 2019/20:

- Celebrating our 50th anniversary with the very successful Annual Meeting hosted in Miami by ASBA and publication of "FONASBA, the first Fifty"
- Launching the FONASBA Introductory and FQS Videos
- Appointing Dr. Dureid Mahasneh as RVP Middle East and Indian Sub-continent
- Welcoming one new Full Member, one Candidate Member and nine Associate Members in Albania, Egypt (3), Estonia, Lithuania, Romania (2) and Venezuela
- Launching the WCO and ICC Academy online training courses and continuing the success of the FONASBA Agent Diploma programme
- Expanding the FQS to more than 40 countries and over 500 companies (now 43 countries and almost 600 companies)
- Making significant progress on the new UNCTAD Minimum Standards document
- Finally succeeding in securing changes to the veterinary inspection regime for cargos of animal origin in Europe
- Enhancing cooperation with major international ship industry bodies in tackling the issues for maritime transport as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic

A short summary of each of these activities appears on the following page. The newsletters include more detailed reports: www.fonasba.com/news-and-events/fonasba-newsletters

IN MORE DETAIL:

FONASBA Annual Meeting:

80 delegates and 30 partners, representing 35 Members, flew to Miami in October for FONASBA's 50th anniversary Annual Meeting, hosted by ASBA. In a packed programme, delegates discussed matters as diverse as new technologies, ECASBA's policy priorities for 2019-24, the future of the shipbroker, the impact of the sulphur cap on freight rates, dangerous goods reporting, the value of the Quality Standard for ship owners and the impact of illegal trades on the global economy.

All plenary meetings were held in a more interactive format, featuring panel discussions and Q&A sessions. The meeting also saw the first plenary meeting of the Association Best Practices Committee with its emphasis on how member associations can increase revenue and enhance services to Members. The meeting closed with the Gala Dinner, hosted by President Aziz Mantrach with six of his predecessors in attendance.



FONASBA Videos Released:

FONASBA has launched two short videos, one a general introduction to the Federation, and the other on the FONASBA Quality Standard. The latter video features endorsements of the FQS by BIMCO and INTERTANKO. They can be viewed on the FONASBA website at: www.fonasba.com/fonasba-member (the general introduction) and: www.fonasba.com/fonasba-initiatives/fonasba-quality-standard (the FQS). Associations can download the videos by contacting the Secretariat.

New RVP ME&ISC Appointed:

Dr. Dureid Mahasneh, a senior member of the Jordanian maritime sector and an internationally recognised expert on marine and environmental issues, has been appointed as FONASBA's Regional Vice President for the Middle East & Indian Sub-Continent, with responsibility for developing membership in the region and supporting existing Members.



New Members Elected:

The following new Members have been elected to membership in the past year:

Full Members: The International Maritime Union (Greece)

Candidate Members: Asociación Nacional De Navieros Y Agentes Marítimos - ASONAV (Colombia)

Associate Members: Dedja Shipping shpk (Albania), ARKAS Egypt S.A.E., FINMAR Shipping Co. S.A.E. and Yang Ming (Egypt) S.A.E (Egypt), CF&S Estonia AS (Estonia), Limarko Maritime Agency UAB (Lithuania), DTS Logistic Service

and Navlomar Maritime S.R.L. (Romania) and Aldebaran Shipping Services C.A. (Venezuela). All are very welcome.

Education:

FONASBA has reached agreement with the Academies of the World Customs Organisation and the International Chambers of Commerce to offer company members of FONASBA associations access to discounted online training courses on customs and international trade courses. Further information on the courses can be found on the FONASBA website at: www.fonasba.com/world-customs-organisation-customs-training-courses (WCO) and: www.fonasba.com/international-chambers-of-commerce-global-trade-training-courses (ICC).

Nearly 300 students have undertaken the FONASBA Agent Diploma, the entry level ship agent diploma offered in partnership with ASBA. More information at: www.fonasba.com/education-and-training/fonasba-agent-diploma

Quality Standard Continues to Expand:

The Quality Standard has now expanded to cover 43 countries with nearly 580 companies approved at the end of June. The latest countries covered are: Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Germany, Poland and Senegal. A number of other Members are working on their criteria so further increases in coverage are expected in the coming months.

UNCTAD Minimum Standards Review:

The revised draft Standards for Shipping Agents are now the Standards for Ship Agents and Ship Brokers and the review continues through a UN/CEFACT project group led by General Manager Jonathan C. Williams FICS. It is expected the final draft will go to public review in July, with formal endorsement anticipated at the 27th Plenary Meeting of UN/CEFACT in May 2021.

ECASBA Succeeds in Amending EU Animal Products Transshipment Legislation:

In December 2019, approval was granted to amend the legislation relating to transit times for cargoes of animal origin being transhipped through EU ports. The inspection-free period was increased from 7 days to 30, thereby significantly reducing the number of containers being called for inspection. Copy documents will also be permissible. This issue has been the subject of a decade long-campaign by ECASBA and is very welcome development for EU ship agents.

Action with Global Maritime Sector on COVID-19:

FONASBA has been working closely with major international organisations to ensure the continued flow of cargo throughout the COVID pandemic and to organise crew changes. This latter issue is particularly important as some crews have now been at sea for periods up to sixteen months and this is taking at toll on their health and well-being. Thankfully crew changes are now restarting as the COVID pandemic slows. FONASBA has also issued nearly 50 updates on the restrictions in place in member countries.