



FONASBA

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FONASBA Publishes Lima Declaration

FONASBA officially launched its "Lima Declaration" at the 2013 Annual Meeting held in Lima, Peru. This document is an appeal to governments, regulators and the maritime industry to recognise the value of education, professional standards and quality service in the fields of ship agency and shipbroking across the globe.

Presenting the Declaration to the members, FONASBA President Marygrace Collins noted that the shipping industry as a whole is under pressure to enhance training and education as a result of increased regulation, both international and national. Ships and the cargoes they carry are becoming more complex and FONASBA is taking the opportunity to issue a reminder that the ship agency and ship broking professions are equally complex, demanding adequate and relevant training and education.

The Declaration is a call to the global ship agency and shipbroking profession to recognise the need to ensure that all employees, from front line agents and brokers to back-office support staff and at every level from trainee to senior management, are properly trained. With new legislation and regulations being introduced on a regular basis, and penalties for non-compliance often severe, being fully up to date is fundamental to providing the highest level of service to principals as well as ensuring full compliance with the law.

FONASBA acknowledges that there are various educational offerings available and hopes to promote broader recognition of same, which would in turn lead to increased participation. Last year, the Federation augmented its Board of Directors with the appointment of a Vice President for Education, Captain Jakov Karmelic, and the "Lima Declaration" has been spearheaded by him as part of the Federation's drive to increase awareness of the wide range of high-quality education available within its own member associations.

The Lima Declaration is a further step in FONASBA's campaign to promote the adoption of professional standards within the industry. It sits alongside and compliments both the FONASBA Quality Standard and our new initiative seeking official recognition by national governments of the profession of ship agent.

[A copy of the Declaration is attached to the press release.](#)

Notes to Editors

FONASBA is the only organisation representing the global ship agency and ship broking professions. Established in 1969 it now has members in 45 countries, including all major maritime and trading nations. Its remit is to "promote and protect the professions of ship agency and ship broking worldwide", a task which it undertakes through dialogue with its member associations and its consultative status with IMO, UNCTAD, UNCITRAL and the World Customs Organisation, as well as through close and regular dialogue with the European Commission and other regional bodies. FONASBA also enjoys reciprocal memberships with the Baltic Exchange, BIMCO, INTERTANKO, indemnity insurer ITIC and the Shipbrokers' Register and works closely with other bodies, both internationally and in Europe.

PRESS RELEASE





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FONASBA LIMA DECLARATION

Acknowledging that:

- shipping plays a vital role in the international economy and contributes to international trade and the world economy as the most efficient, safe and environmentally friendly mode of transporting goods
- ship agents and brokers are at the heart of the shipping industry, by both bringing vessels and cargoes together and coordinating the actions of statutory authorities, port and terminal operators, service providers, the Master, Owners and all other parties to ensure the efficient movement of the vessel through the port
- education of shipping professionals is of fundamental value to shipping

Knowing that:

- ship agency and ship broking are complex and demanding professions
- ship agents are required at all times to be fully conversant with the navigation, safety, commercial and statutory requirements and regulations applicable to the port
- ships are high value assets
- procedures and standards for safety and environmental protection are increasing
- ships, ports, information and communication technologies are developing rapidly

Understanding that

- there are no global education standards for ship agents and shipbrokers
- professional qualifications of ship agents and shipbrokers are not universally recognised
- different education standards and requirements exist within individual countries, without reference to practices in other countries
- in many countries there are no formal entry qualifications for entry to the ship agency and shipbroking professions

Recognizing that

- traditional shipping knowledge and experience have a great value but need to be complimented by ongoing professional and training development to ensure that future developments and challenges can be met
- it is important to give to present and future generations of ship agents and ship brokers vision and a commitment to improve their professional capacity qualifications

We, the delegates to the FONASBA Annual General Meeting held in Lima, Peru, declare that:

- the best way of improving safety and security in the ports, at sea and elsewhere in the maritime sector, and avoiding the proliferation of inconsistent and often contradictory national and regional regulation is through the development of harmonised, streamlined and above all internationally applicable regulations that are implemented consistently by all maritime nations
- a consistent international set of baseline standards for education, training and certification of shipping agents and brokers should be established and implemented
- internationally recognised professional standards and accreditation for ship agents and shipbrokers should also be established
- professional qualifications for ship agents and shipbrokers should be mutually recognised on a global basis
- in order to raise standards of professionalism in the ship agency and shipbroking sectors, companies providing such services should aspire to become members of a national association and implement appropriate and relevant standards of conduct
- individuals working in the ship agency and shipbroking professions should aspire to achieve high standards of personal qualification and training from a recognised education provider
- the FONASBA Quality Standard should be recognised by all parties in international maritime transport as a globally accepted quality label

FONASBA
Lima, Peru
25th October 2013