



# International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH)

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## Resolution on Passenger Ship Safety Adopted on May 9, 2013 at the 28th IAPH World Ports Conference in Los Angeles, USA

RECOGNIZING that the cruise industry provides significant economic stimulus to cruise ports and to their local areas,

BEING AWARE that passenger ships have increased in size in order to attain economies of scale with ships with a capacity of more than 7,000 persons (passengers and crew) currently sailing,

RECOGNIZING that cruise ports in the world have invested considerable resources in modernizing their facilities to accommodate such large passenger ships,

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that the concentration of such a large numbers of people on the ship might increase health and safety risks,

NOTING that new strict safety rules on passenger ships are now under discussion in international organizations such as IMO<sup>i</sup> to prevent incidents resulting in injury and loss of life or that expose passengers to health risks and significant inconveniences.

On a proposal duly seconded, it is unanimously resolved that

1. IAPH recognizes that the cruise industry plays a significant role in the economies of cruise ports and their local areas.
2. IAPH believes that it is a critical issue for both the cruise industry and the port industry to further develop cruise business by improving safety of passenger ships.
3. IAPH recognizes the quick reaction from CLIA (Cruise Lines International Association) and ECC (Europe Cruise Council) to incidents by launching a Cruise Industry Operational Safety Review (OSR) with the aim of undertaking a comprehensive assessment of the critical human factors and operational aspects of maritime safety.
4. IAPH urges the cruise industry to have their staff and crew thoroughly observe the current international safety rules/codes of passenger ships and the voluntary safety requirements adopted by the cruise lines.
5. IAPH supports international organizations including IMO in preparing new strict safety rules/codes on passenger ships in order to prevent fatal incidents, taking into account the afore-mentioned voluntary safety requirements and others.
6. IAPH urges States to ratify international Conventions that stipulates the compensation scheme<sup>ii</sup> for cruise passengers.

<sup>i</sup> International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)

<sup>ii</sup> Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea (PAL)