



International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH)

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Resolution on Urging Ratification of HNS Conventions Adopted on May 9, 2013 at the 28th IAPH World Ports Conference in Los Angeles, USA

RECOGNIZING that transport of HNS Cargoⁱ will further increase in proportion with the expansion of world trade,

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that a financial compensation and liability scheme for the damage due to accidents while transporting HNS cargo on ships is essential and completes the framework of international liability schemes in relation to damages caused by sea borne transport,

RECALLING that the International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted the HNS Conventionⁱⁱ in 1996 and subsequently the HNS Protocol 2010ⁱⁱⁱ aiming to establish the afore mentioned international liability and compensation scheme,

BEING AWARE that the HNS Protocol 2010 addresses various implementing subjects of the Convention, such as the HNS cargo to be regulated and the required mechanism for the contributions to the future HNS Fund,

NOTING that this - notwithstanding, the HNS Protocol 2010 was not ratified by any State since its adoption,

ACKNOWLEDGING the continued efforts of IMO and States to further facilitate the ratification of the Convention by endorsement of the “Reporting Guidelines on the Submission of HNS Contributing Cargo” in its 100th Legal Committee meeting in April of this year, therewith overcoming the lack of formal reporting modalities which are part of the ratification requirements in most States,

ACKNOWLEDGING FURTHER the approach selected by IMO to make use of already established reporting mechanisms (as in International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds)) and transposing these on HNS cargo and the respective reports for the different fund accounts,

On a proposal duly seconded, it is unanimously resolved that

1. IAPH urges States to ratify IMO’s HNS Protocol 2010 underlining that a method for the reporting of HNS cargo has been endorsed by IMO in its Legal Committee meeting of April of this year, as a consequence of which the remaining obstacles for States to ratify the Protocol are removed.
2. IAPH appreciates the continuous international efforts, especially made by IMO and States to eventually set into force an international mechanism for compensation of damages arising from transportation of HNS cargo by sea.

ⁱ Hazardous and Noxious Substances



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Since 1955

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- ii “The International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea (HNS), 1996”
 - iii “The Protocol of 2010 to the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea (HNS), 1996”