



# International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH)

7<sup>th</sup> Floor, South Tower New Pier Takeshiba

1-16-1 Kaigan, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0022, Japan

Tel: +81-3-5403-2770

Fax: +81-3-5403-7651

E-mail: [info@iaphworldports.org](mailto:info@iaphworldports.org)

Web site: <http://www.iaphworldports.org>

## **Resolution on the Verification of Container Weight in the Supply Chain Adopted on May 9, 2013 at the 28th IAPH World Ports Conference in Los Angeles, USA**

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RECOGNIZING that overweight or incorrectly documented containers may endanger each mode of transport in the international supply chain posing serious risks on safety of vessel navigation, port operation and road transportation,

REMEMBERING that IAPH adopted a resolution on the safety of containers in the supply chain at the 27<sup>th</sup> IAPH World Ports Conference in Busan in 2011, requesting and urging the related organizations and parties to address the safety of container transport,

NOTING that the IMO started the deliberation of this issue in its sub-committee DSC<sup>i</sup>, to address amending the SOLAS Convention<sup>ii</sup> and the establishment of relevant guidelines<sup>iii</sup>,

On a proposal duly seconded, it is unanimously resolved that

1. IAPH believes that the root cause of the problem is the lack of knowledge and incorrect declaration by shippers about shipment in containers at the origin of transport and that the issue may only be addressed by establishing compulsory rules to require shippers to weigh and make correct declaration.
2. IAPH appreciates and advocates the basic notions shown in the draft amendment of the SOLAS Convention and its Guidelines under the deliberation of the Correspondence Group of DSC, which clearly stipulates shippers' obligation of correct declarations based on verified weight of cargo at the origin of transport.
3. IAPH encourages Governments and their relevant Agencies to establish effective legal requirements and control mechanisms to ensure the correct application of the requirements mentioned in the above.
4. IAPH further encourages ports and terminals around the world to prepare with the highest priority the possible implementation of a new mechanism in order to improve port safety and efficiency with verified weight certificates from shippers.

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<sup>i</sup> Sub-Committee on Dangerous Goods, Solid cargoes and Containers

<sup>ii</sup> Draft Amendment of SOLAS Chapter VI "Carriage of Cargoes", Part A, Regulation 2

<sup>iii</sup> Draft Guidelines regarding the verified gross mass of a container carrying cargo