

MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE
106th session
Agenda item 18

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Promoting safe sailing for sport and leisure in all regions

Submitted by South Africa

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document contains information on the Memorandum of Understanding entered into by and between the Department of Transport of the Republic of South Africa, South African Sailing and the Transport Education and Training Authority, with an aim of promoting safety on sailing for sport and leisure in all regions.

Strategic direction, if applicable: Not applicable

Output: Not applicable

Action to be taken: Paragraph 6

Related documents: None

1 Sailing for sport and leisure has been growing in South Africa where there is a wider participation in yacht clubs, universities and schools. This activity has played a unique and positive role in contributing to safety of sailing for sport and leisure and for social cohesion among the participants.

2 This activity has exposed South Africans to the world of sport where they participate on a number of international sailing race including the World Championships in Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, China, Denmark, Spain, Morocco, Mozambique, etc. This active participation has necessitated the South African government particularly the Department of Transport to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the local stakeholders particularly the South African Sailing and the Transport Education and Training Authority of South Africa with an aim of supporting safe sailing and to comply with the applicable safety standards for boat building.

3 The MoU is aligned to the Comprehensive Maritime Transport Policy of South Africa which seeks to, inter alia, promote social development and provide economic opportunities for inland waterways and coastal communities. Furthermore, the MoU aims to develop and enhance national and international sailing, promote marine tourism, and provide capacity building for yacht operators.

4 While sailing, the operators and sailors are expected to prevent pollution from the crafts, and adhere to the applicable safety standards of navigation, construction and equipment.

5 Having considered sailing as the safe and environmentally friendly activity, South Africa encourages other Member States of IMO to promote sailing for sport and leisure at local, regional and international levels.

Action requested of the Committee

6 The Committee is invited to take note of the information provided and to comment as it may deem appropriate.
