

FACILITATION COMMITTEE  
42nd session  
Agenda item 11

FAL 42/11  
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**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES  
RELATED TO FACILITATION OF MARITIME TRAFFIC**

**Activities relevant to the FAL Convention**

**Note by the Secretariat**

**SUMMARY**

*Executive summary:* This document reports on activities relevant to the implementation of the FAL Convention, conducted under the Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) since FAL 41

*Strategic direction,  
if applicable:* SD 1

*Output:* 1.7

*Action to be taken:* Paragraph 7

*Related documents:* FAL 41/11, TC 67/3(a) and TC 67/17

1 Technical cooperation activities implemented through the ITCP could be broadly grouped into the following categories: workshops, seminars or courses, which might be regional, subregional or national; and needs assessment, fact-finding, follow-up or advisory missions. These activities are complemented by presentations on facilitation-related subjects in various conferences and meetings worldwide.

2 The objectives of technical cooperation activities relevant to the FAL Convention are to:

- .1 make the participants fully aware of the institutional and economic advantages and benefits to be derived from the acceptance and implementation of the FAL Convention, including the use of electronic data interchange and enhancement of efficient exchange of information between trade and Government;
- .2 provide guidelines on follow-up measures concerning the practical implementation of the FAL Convention including the use of the IMO FAL forms and the development of the Single Window concept;
- .3 advise on the functions of a national maritime transport facilitation committee;

- .4 advise on the amendments to the FAL Convention adopted by FAL 40 (resolution FAL.12(40)); and
- .5 provide the participants with other information relevant to the subject.

### **Seminars for better implementation of the FAL Convention**

3 The details of the activities organized by the Secretariat since FAL 41 are set out in the annex.

4 The national and regional seminars conducted have been good opportunities to meet all the stakeholders involved in port activities, to review the current situation with respect to maritime clearance processes for ships, cargo, passengers and crew, and to identify and address legal and organizational obstacles to improving facilitation. As an outcome of these seminars, it is expected that Member States will take appropriate action to accede to and better implement the FAL Convention.

### **Feasibility study to expand NEAL-NET in the Asian Region**

5 The Secretariat implemented two feasibility studies, in Myanmar and Cambodia, with the intention to expand the Northeast Asia Logistics Information Service Network (NEAL-NET) project system in the countries. The outputs of these projects are presented in the annex.

### **Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals and World Maritime Day Theme for 2017**

6 "Connecting ships, ports and people" was selected as the World Maritime Day theme for 2017. The technical cooperation activities related to facilitation of maritime traffic were intended to contribute significantly to the prosperity and stability ashore through promoting trade by sea; enhancing the port and maritime sector as wealth creators both on land and, through developing a sustainable blue economy, at sea. By reducing paperwork and simplifying formalities and procedures associated with the arrival, stay and departure of ships on international voyages, ships, cargo and passengers should be able to transit smoothly from port to port. These activities also encouraged the use of modern information and communication technology and, in particular, electronic information exchange between ships and ports. The resulting efficiency will have a clear beneficial impact on trade facilitation, the economy and on the achievement of several Sustainable Development Goals.

### **Action requested of the Committee**

7 The Committee is invited to note the information provided and take action as appropriate.

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**ANNEX**  
**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES RELATED TO FACILITATION OF MARITIME TRAFFIC**  
**CARRIED OUT BETWEEN DECEMBER 2016 AND DECEMBER 2017**

Activity title	Month delivered	Location	Outputs	Recipients
<b>COMPLETED ACTIVITIES</b>				
<b>EASTERN EUROPE</b>				
Seminar on the Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic	November 2017	Bar, Montenegro	The objective of the seminar was to promote the implementation of the FAL Convention in Montenegro. The seminar also aimed at the improvement of FAL activities in Montenegrin ports, introduction of the amendments to the Convention adopted by resolution FAL.11 (40) that entered into force on 1 January 2018, and providing a better understanding of the concept, the processes and procedures that go with the use of electronic data interchange techniques for the clearance of ships, persons and cargoes and implementation of the single window in maritime transport.	Montenegro
<b>AFRICA</b>				
National seminar on Facilitation of Maritime Traffic	January 2017	Lomé, Togo	Participants trained on the FAL Convention, and their knowledge enhanced on the concept of the Single Window, electronic data processing and interchange techniques for the clearance of ships, persons and cargoes. National authorities were advised on the benefits of ratification of the Convention and on the amendments adopted by resolution FAL.12(40), and the utility of using the single window concept in the maritime trade of the country.	Togo
<b>ASIA &amp; PACIFIC ISLANDS</b>				
Regional seminar on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic	May 2017	Bangkok, Thailand	The objective of the workshop was to promote ratification of the FAL Convention, if they are already party they do not need to ratify again as well as provision of better understanding of the FAL Convention amendments which entered into force on 1 January 2018.	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam.

Feasibility Study to expand NEAL-NET	February to September 2017	Myanmar	In 2013 IMO conducted a national seminar on "Electronic means for the clearance of ships and use of the single window concept" in Myanmar. The project intended to develop a feasibility study on implementation of logistics information framework using standard technology in Cambodia; and to provide assistance to the beneficiary country, as well as other IMO Member States located in the region, by utilizing the study report as a supporting document that may be submitted to international funding organizations, such as the World Bank or the Asian Development Bank, for establishing the NEAL-NET system in the countries.	Myanmar
Feasibility Study to expand NEAL-NET	February to September 2017	Cambodia	In 2014 IMO conducted a national seminar on "Electronic means for the clearance of ships and use of the single window concept" in Cambodia. The project intended to develop a FS on implementation of logistics information framework using standard technology in Cambodia; and to provide assistance to the beneficiary country, as well as other IMO Member States located in the region, by utilizing the study report as a supporting document that may be submitted to international funding organizations, such as the World Bank or the Asian Development Bank, for establishing the NEAL-NET system in the countries.	Cambodia