



# NEWSFLASH

Q2 2017

## Chairman's Message

*"Elected Vice Chair to the ICS Board"*



As we enter into the European summer holiday period, we can look back upon a very successful spring with many important developments in the shipping industry.

Some of you have most likely noted that this quarter's NewsFlash arrives somewhat late. We felt that with the IMO MEPC71, the Board meeting and meeting with the EU just around the corner, it would be better to hold on and include some brief reports on those events as well.

The BSA continues its proactive work on influencing developments in shipping and, as will be described below, the BSA is becoming more active in its work with and towards other organisations. One such organisation is RightShip, which the BSA is regularly in meetings with to discuss improvements of the Qi System.

Another organisation with which the BSA is increasingly involved, is the ICS, where the BSA is a regular participant and contributor to meetings. As a result of this increased activity, I am pleased to report that I was elected Vice Chairman to the ICS Board at the ICS Annual General Meeting in early May. This very positive news will further strengthen our possibilities to drive the BSA agenda.

However, the organisation closest and most important to us, is of course the BMA. Our invaluable relationship and cooperation with the BMA allows us a very special standing as compared to other shipowners associations. Working in close cooperation with the flag, we achieve wonders together.

This coming autumn will be very eventful and we look forward to meeting with the US EPA and USCG in late August and not the least to an inspiring Annual General Meeting in London on 11 Sept on the theme *'Shipping in a Disruptive World.'*

John Adams  
BSA Chairman

*Proactively pursuing the interests of our Members closely collaborating with Flag State and influencing industry.*

## 2017 to date

The first half of 2017 has just passed and we are well into the summer holiday season for many of us. This spring has seen some great developments in shipping in general and for the BSA in particular. Since the Q1 NewsFlash, the BSA have been represented at:

- IMO FAL41
- IMO MSC98
- IMO MEPC71

All IMO reports will be found on the BSA website for all members to read.

The BSA has also been represented at the ICS Board meeting and AGM in Istanbul, Turkey, in 10-11 May.

Only the week before last, we had a very good Board meeting in Brussels on 12 July, followed by a very valuable meeting with the European Commission together with representatives from the Bahamas Maritime Authority. A brief summary will be found below and a more detailed report on the meeting will be found on the BSA website for all members to read.

## Update on MARPOL Annex IV, BWMC & QualShip21

The BSA is very happy to share the great news that the Bahamas has acceded to MARPOL Annex IV and the BWMC. The change in tack from the Flag, especially with regard to MARPOL Annex IV, shows the importance of the BSA's and BMA's invaluable relationship.

The BMA has also confirmed that the Bahamas Flag is back on the Qualship21 list. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all of our members and their crews who have worked hard to achieve this! Great work!!



*The IMO Secretary General, Mr Kitack Lim, and the Bahamas High Commissioner, His Excellency Eldred E. Bethel, at the ceremony where the Bahamas acceded to the Ballast Water Management Convention (BWMC) on 8 June, 2017.*

## IMO MSC98 & MEPC71

International shipping saw some very interesting developments earlier this summer at the 98<sup>th</sup> session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee and the 71<sup>st</sup> session of the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee.

Some of the highlights from the MSC98 include a complete revision of SOLAS II-1, the approval of guidelines on maritime cyber risk management, and the inclusion of a new work item for the next biennial agenda; *autonomous surface ships!*

The latter is a stark change in stance by the IMO and even though science fiction to some, this is clearly becoming reality for others. Either way, it is vastly important that the work in IMO is an integral part of developments in this area.

The MEPC71 saw the approval of changes to the implementation schedule of the BWMC regulation B3, which was very positive news to many of our members. There were also changes to MARPOL.

On the immensely important issue of reduction of GHG emissions, there was a general feeling the meeting did not make as much headway as had been hoped for.

Full reports on both meetings are available on the BSA website for all members.

## RightShip – Qi System

An meeting between RightShip and the BSA was held on 3 April. Since, the BSA and RightShip meet (tele conference) regularly, to follow up on issues. The following is clear from the meetings:

- *Vessels need to be discussed case by case.*
- There are issues with "Continuity RISK" as well as "Regulatory RISK", e.g. the combination of certain Flags and Registers has a negative impact.
- Increased transparency towards the BSA members.

The Qi System is based on machine learning and is currently "re-training", meaning that we can expect to see changes to the star ratings sometime after summer.

A separate update on our work with RightShip will be made available to all members before the end of July.

## Shipping in a Disruptive World BSA Annual General Meeting & Conference

The BSA Annual General Meeting will be held on 11 September onboard the HQS Wellington, a unique maritime venue on the Thames Embankment in London.

This year's AGM and Conference is held association with the London International Shipping Week, and forms an integral part of the LISW programme.

With the theme *Shipping in a Disruptive World*, the line-up for this year's AGM and Conference are some very well known names. Keynote speaker will be Dr Martin Stopford talking about changing business models in shipping, followed by:

- Chris Palsson from Lloyd's List Intelligence on future market trends,
- Prof Richard Watson on Management Information Technology in Shipping, and
- KD Adamson from Futureautics on effects of digitisation in shipping.

A separate invitation will be sent to members and will be found as page four as well. Please note that space is limited to 120 participants due to the location.

## Meeting with the EU

On 13 July members of the BSA Bod and Secretariat together with representatives from the BMA met with representatives of the European Commission Directorate-General for Transport and Mobility (DG MOVE).

Issues discussed ranged from outcomes of the MEPC71 and the lack of support from the EU members of the Bahamas position on agreeing on a vision and strategy for the reduction of GHG emissions, to an update on the EMSA audit of the Philippines Training Institutions, and the recycling of ships outside EU.

The BSA was also invited to participate in the process of the revision of the Shipping MRV Regulation. Further information to follow below and the BSA response attached as a separate file.

The full notes from the meeting will be made available to members on the BSA website as well as attached to this NewsFlash.

## INTRODUCING THE WORK OF THE BSA SECRETARIAT

The role of the BSA Secretariat is to function as the backbone of the BSA, supporting members on issues and experiences, as well as representing the BSA at numerous meetings with the ICS Committees, and reporting from the IMO meetings.

All feedback and input from members are extremely valuable to us and we are here to work on your behalf.

Examples of issues initially identified by individual members that has been worked on this past spring have been:

- Unjustified PSCs in China, and
- The RightShip Qi System.

The Secretariat also work on establishing the BSA as a trustworthy and effective partner in its role as a lobby organisation. By being increasingly visible and active at meetings, the Secretariat is raising the BSA profile and gaining in influence, which is crucial for being able to drive your issues.

This past spring the Secretariat has among other things written the leaders of the US Senate and Congress as part of our work to achieve a federal regulation on ballast water. The latter is vastly important to our members trading on the US.

Similarly the Secretariat has fed input to the EU revision of the MRV regulation. Having two different systems for data collection on GHG emissions from shipping would be very negative for shipping, and the BSA has strongly argued this with the EU.

The work we do is dependent on input and feedback from members. During autumn the Secretariat will start preparing position papers for the issues on the next biennial agenda for the IMO (2018-2019). As members, you will be asked about your input on these and other, issues. We know and understand resources are scarce for many of you, but the more input and feedback we receive from you, the better we can fend for your future needs and the problems you see coming.

## 2017 Calendar

As a means to keep costs down, the BSA Board strives to hold its meetings in conjunction with other meetings. The intention is that these meetings rotate between geographical regions.

The major events where the BSA Board and / or the Secretariat will be represented during this coming autumn are the following.

- Meetings with the US EPA and USCG – Washington, 23 - 24 August
- BSA Board meeting – London, 11 September
- BSA AGM & Conference – London, 11 September
- ICS Board meeting – London, 12 September
- ICS Labour Affairs Committee – London, 13 September
- ICS Conference – London, 14 September
- LISW – London, 11 – 15 September
- IMO Assembly 30 – London, 27 November – 6 December
- BSA Board Call – Teleconference, mid-December

## Bahamas Shipowners Association Secretariat



John Adams  
Chairman of the Board  
Managing Director  
Teekay Shipping (Glasgow)



Anders Brodje  
Manager  
abrodje@bahamasshipownersassociation.com  
+44 749 775 49 23



Kendanique Ferguson  
Secretary  
kferguson@bahamasshipownersassociation.com  
+44 20 756 213 15