

CONFERENCE FOR ARAB WOMEN IN THE MARITIME SECTOR

"Establishment of the Arab Women in the Maritime Association"

The DELEGATES,

RECALLING the International Maritime Organization (IMO) strategic and ongoing commitment, since 1988, to the integration of women in the maritime sector, through the framework of the Organization's Strategic Plan and its Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP),

RECALLING ALSO the guiding principles governing the ITCP, allocating priority, *inter alia*, to empowering women as key maritime resources,

RECALLING FURTHER United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/70/1 *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, which sets out 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to ensure that the purpose of the 2030 Agenda is realized and calls upon global partnerships to work together to ensure their implementation,

NOTING the Organization's obligations and responsibilities to implement, through its standard-setting work and its technical cooperation activities, the aims and objectives of the SDGs and its targets, and of the need to mobilize the means required to support with concrete actions the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

NOTING ALSO the Organization's responsibility to implement, through the framework of the ITCP and capacity-building activities, the goals and objectives of SDG 5 "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls",

NOTING FURTHER the Organization's support, through the work of the Technical Cooperation Committee, for the establishment of regional associations for women in the maritime sector, to enhance the platform for the harmonized and effective implementation of IMO's global standards for safe and secure navigation on clean oceans,

RECOGNIZING the importance of enhancing channels of communication and information technology for better cooperation and collaboration at the regional level, with a view to advocating gender equity, improving women's access to maritime training and technology and promoting their advancement to key decision making levels in the maritime sector in the Arab States,

RECOGNIZING ALSO the importance of SDG 17 "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development" in enhancing the IMO partnership framework for strengthening regional institutional capacities,

ACKNOWLEDGING the vital contribution of women in leadership positions in the Arab States in enhancing the harmonized management of safe, secure and efficient shipping on clean seas,

Hereby resolve to:

- 1 **INVITE** IMO Member States in the Arab region to:
 - .1 actively support the development of the Arab Women in Maritime Association (AWIMA), launched in Alexandria, Egypt on **20 October 2017**;
 - .2 meet the challenge of realizing the 2030 Agenda by exploring the alignment of their goals and those of the SDGs, notably SDG5, with a view to generating a symbiosis with the activities of the ITCP;
 - .3 work inclusively with the national agencies responsible for gender matters to ensure reporting on country compliance with the SDGs so that national planning, monitoring and resource allocation relevant to maritime specific SDG targets are integrated;
 - .4 encourage the equal participation of women at all levels of maritime education, training and research, and to strengthen the national mechanisms for the employment of women in accordance with the stated objectives of the current SDGs, the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and any future goals established by the United Nations under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
 - .5 facilitate the development and funding of training modalities for women managers, including on-the-job attachments with national maritime administrations, to encourage the transfer of knowledge and to enable female officials to gain practical experience in technical and maritime administration processes;
 - .6 introduce mentorship programmes within the maritime sectors, as a costneutral mechanism for encouraging the retention and development of women officials at entry level and middle management; and
 - .7 identify and nominate women professionals for participation in IMO training events, for fellowships and for candidatures to the World Maritime University (WМУ), the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), and the International Maritime Safety, Security and Environment Academy (IMSSEA).

- 2 **ENCOURAGE** the maritime industry and all its stakeholders to:
 - .1 develop and strengthen gender-neutral operational frameworks, which substantively support the access of women to recruitment and employment opportunities, career path advancement and mobility, to the highest levels, in line with their experience and qualifications.

- 3 **ADOPT** the "IMO Arab Association for Women in the Maritime Sector: Establishment, hostship and governance guidelines" (in the appendix to this resolution), as the foundation for the establishment and operation of the Arab Women in the Maritime Sector Association (AWIMA). _____