

TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE 68th session Agenda item 5(d)

TC 68/5(d) 20 April 2018 Original: ENGLISH

THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(d) Strengthening the impact of women in the maritime sector

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY	
Executive summary:	This document reports on the implementation of activities under IMO's gender and capacity-building programme from June 2017 to March 2018. Furthermore, it sets out information and action to be taken on the document submitted to TC 67 under this agenda item, the consideration of which was deferred to this session, owing to time constraints.
Strategic direction, if applicable:	1
Output:	1.6 and OW 21
Action to be taken:	Paragraph 23
Related documents:	TC 68/5(d)/1, TC/68/5(d)/2, TC 68/3, TC 68/INF.4 and TC 67/8

Introduction

1 Owing to time constraints, TC 67 decided to defer consideration of the matter of the report on the implementation of activities under IMO's gender programme from August 2016 to May 2017 to this session (document TC 67/8).¹

2 Through its gender and capacity-building programme, IMO has taken a strategic approach towards enhancing the contribution of women as key maritime stakeholders. The programme for 2017 entitled "SDG 5: Strengthening the maritime sector" provides a vector for promoting the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and has been designed with a focus on the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), giving priority to meeting the special assistance needs of Africa, of the least developed countries (LDCs) and the small island developing States (SIDS).



¹ For reasons of economy, documents submitted to TC 67 will not be reproduced for this session. Delegates are therefore invited to download these from IMODOCS.

3 In 2017, the programme activities strengthened national and regional capacities through gender-specific fellowships; facilitated access to high-level technical training for women in the maritime sector in developing countries; and provided an enabling environment, through its seven Women in Maritime Associations (WIMAs), for the identification and selection of women, by their respective authorities, for career development opportunities in maritime administrations, ports and maritime training institutes.

Capacity-building activities

4 From June 2017 to March 2018, the main objective of IMO's gender programme was to facilitate increased access of women to technical training through short upgrading courses. Successful outcomes included the participation of female officials at the following capacity-building activities (document TC 68/3 refers):

- .1 provision of 21 fellowships to English-speaking officials to attend the ninth training course on women in port management held at IPER, in France. With IMO's support, women managers were trained in port management and protection of the port marine environment;
- .2 provision of a fellowship to attend the train-the-trainer and maritime inspectors course in the application of the International Labour Organization (ILO) Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, in Italy;
- .3 provision of two fellowships to attend the aids to navigation (AtoN) managers at the IALA level 1 AtoN course in France;
- .4 provision of six fellowships to attend the port senior management programme at the Galilee International Management Institute (GIMI), in Israel;
- .5 nomination of a female candidate to the IMO fellowship at the World Maritime University (WMU), Sweden, in support of the WMU Women's Association (WMUWA); and
- .6 provision of 40 fellowships to French-speaking officials, to attend the tenth training course on women in port management held at IPER. It is worth noting that, while empowering port women is a key outcome of IMO's gender programme, demand for this course has continued to grow substantially over the past three years, although funding has not kept pace with this trend.

Support to the women in Maritime Associations

5 Regional collaboration has been a key element of IMO's implementation of the empowerment of women under SDG 5. Recognizing the contribution of women officials in the maritime sector highlights the fact that women form an indispensable part of the human capital of a country and the region to which that country belongs. IMO considers national and regional networks across Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America, the Middle East and the Pacific islands an effective mechanism for providing women with greater visibility and wider access to information and knowledge. Launched in 2005 as a key pillar of IMO's gender programme, a strategy of reinforcing regional partnerships between women managers in the maritime and port sectors remained a significant aspect of this programme during the period under review, and provided an effective mechanism for the delivery of training.

6 The outreach activities of national WIMA chapters, as extensions of the IMO WIMA associations, have proved to be very successful in the Caribbean, as they have in Africa, Asia and the Pacific islands. In reinforcing the key role that field-level initiatives can play in raising awareness amongst the wider population, this is particularly relevant amongst the young people IMO is endeavouring to attract to the maritime sector and should prove to be an effective tool in increasing the intake into maritime training institutions.

7 Present in all the regional associations and throughout all of IMO's gender initiatives, both as key stakeholders and mentors, are the female graduates of WMU and the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), whose presence as maritime administrators and decision makers has reinforced the impact that female role models have in encouraging new female recruits.

Association of Women Managers in the Maritime Sector in Eastern and Southern Africa (WOMESA)

8 Promoting women's access to quality employment and senior management level within the maritime sector is a key priority for IMO's gender and capacity-building programme and was at the core of the eighth regional conference to support the Association of Women Managers in the Maritime Sector in Eastern and Southern Africa (WOMESA), held in Mahé, Seychelles, in September 2017, under the theme: A Decade of Empowering Maritime Women – What does the future hold for Africa's blue economy?

9 A noteworthy outcome of WOMESA is the achievement, since 2007, of a solid governance framework and near-sustainable planning structures, to a point where WOMESA is able to start putting in place the building blocks for the next stage of its growth.

10 Supported by the strategic development of a robust second five-year plan of action, the conference focused on the key achievements made by the Association over the last decade, as it celebrates its milestone tenth anniversary. At the closure of the conference, a resolution (annex 1) was adopted, which addresses a wide range of practical aspects, including partnership development, identifying training funds and facilitating access to mandatory sea time for cadets, including, in particular, female cadets. Moreover, it sets out WOMESA's obligations and responsibilities to achieving the SDGs and related targets, to ensure that the purpose of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is realized through the Association's work programme. This resolution also calls for strengthened strategic partnerships between WOMESA and organizations, including the African Union (AU) Commission (through its Women, Gender and Development Directorate), the African Shipowners' Association (ASA), the Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA) and IMO. The aim of such partnerships is to build cooperation in pursuance of programmes to empower maritime women for visibility, networking, linkages and implementation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063.

11 The programme also supported the attendance of two members of the WOMESA Secretariat to share their experience at the PMAESA conference 2017: Raising the profile of land-locked countries in the logistics and maritime value chains, in Victoria Falls, Zambia, in November 2017.

Support to the Arab Women in Maritime Association (AWIMA)

12 In October 2017, the programme supported a groundbreaking event in Alexandria, Egypt, through the delivery of a regional seminar for the establishment of the Arab Women in Maritime Association (AWIMA). Thirty women from nine Arab countries attended the seminar to officially launch this Association, which will provide a springboard for creating regional training and sustainable development opportunities for Arab maritime women.

13 Key outcomes of the conference include the drafting of a constitution for AWIMA and the adoption of a conference resolution (annex 2) that recognizes the benefits and importance of achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for Arab States and the relevance and pivotal role of the maritime sector to the economies of the region.

14 AWIMA also adopted the framework for its development, including the Association's vision, mission, objectives, strategic approach and interim work plan for 2018-2019. The AWIMA Governing Council officers were also elected.

Support to the Women in Maritime Association, Asia (WIMA Asia)

15 In November 2017, the Women in Maritime Association, Asia (WIMA Asia) was strengthened through the delivery of a regional conference in Dili, Timor-Leste, under the theme: Transitioning from Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to the SDGs. This enabled the valuable transfer of knowledge and sharing of key information, which will assist the WIMA Asia members to integrate the meeting outcomes into their work, and support their maritime administrations.

16 Results include the following key outcomes:

- .1 identification of goals and performance indicators to support the development of a five-year strategy for WIMA Asia. This strategy will become the roadmap to mark the stages of WIMA Asia's progress, and it will identify the resources required for that progress;
- .2 identification of a work programme for 2018; and adoption of an implementation programme integrating the objectives of the relevant SDGs;
- .3 creation of a Facebook page to raise awareness of the Association and its achievements; and
- .4 establishment of a Governing Council for WIMA Asia.

17 In addition, the WIMA Asia resolution on the regional implementation of the SDGs was adopted (annex 3).

Support to the network of Women of the Maritime Authorities of Latin America (MAMLa)

18 In December 2017, with the support of Malaysia, the network of Women of the Maritime Authorities of Latin America – *Ia Red de Mujeres de las Autoridades Marítimas de Latinoamérica* (MAMLa) was established. Sixty-two women from 18 countries in Latin America came together in Valparaíso, Chile, to set up a framework for the newly formed network as well as share ideas and knowledge about the maritime sector.

19 Information on the key outcomes of this conference is contained in document TC 68/5(d)/1. These include: the adoption of the Valparaíso Agreement at the conclusion of the conference for the creation of MAMLa and the seventh and most recent WIMA established under the auspices of IMO to give visibility and recognition to the role women play as key resources for the maritime sector. In addition, a correspondence working group was created with a mandate to determine the strategy of MAMLa.

Support to the Pacific Women in Maritime Association (PacWIMA)

The Pacific Women in Maritime Association (PacWIMA) was set up in Fiji in February 2004 and re-launched in Tonga in April 2016. Information on the outcomes of the Second regional conference for PacWIMA, to be held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, from 26 to 28 April 2018, will be reported in document TC/68/5(d)/2.

Support to the Women in Maritime Association, Caribbean (WiMAC)

Although financial support was not provided in 2017 to facilitate a meeting for the Women in Maritime Association, Caribbean (WiMAC), discussions are ongoing between ILO, IMO, WiMAC and maritime education institutions in the Caribbean to establish a mentorship programme for women in the maritime sector from the region, including "train the trainer" and virtual modalities as well as developing a sensitization programme aimed at introducing the maritime world to girls in primary and secondary schools. Once these draft programmes have been developed, they will be trialled by WiMAC and rolled out to the other WIMAs in due course. Funding has been identified under the ITCP for a regional meeting of WiMAC members, in 2018.

Conclusion

It may be noted that the beneficiaries of IMO's gender programme do not just benefit the training recipients, but also the national maritime administrations as a whole, for which an effective maritime transport is key to economic infrastructure development. The testimony of IMO's gender programme, which is now in its thirtieth year, is that empowering women fuels thriving economies, spurs productivity and growth, and benefits every stakeholder in the global maritime community.

Action requested of the Committee

- 23 The Committee is invited to:
 - .1 note the information provided in this document in relation to the activities undertaken under IMO's gender programme "SDG 5: Strengthening the maritime sector" from June 2017 to March 2018, and make such comments and recommendations as it deems appropriate; and
 - .2 take note of and comment on the issues raised under the three annexed resolutions.

ANNEX 1

2017 WOMESA RESOLUTION

8th Regional Conference and 10th Anniversary of the Association of Women in the maritime sector in Eastern and Southern Africa (WOMESA) under the theme: A Decade of empowering Women – What does the future hold for Africa's Blue Economy? Mahé, Seychelles – 24 to 29 September 2017

We, the 60 participants to the above conference,

REAFFIRMING WOMESA as an Association of women established under the auspices and support of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) with the aim of facilitating capacity-building for women in order to provide the highly qualified resources required by the maritime sector;

HONOURING the tenth anniversary of WOMESA's establishment in Kenya in December 2007, which has resulted in the establishment of strong governance and strategic principles which are aligned with the UN's precepts of Gender Equality and IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP);

RECOGNIZING the multiplier effect of WOMESA's activities which have impacted the lives of young women and children at the national level through the establishment of 10 national WOMESA Chapters, namely, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles; Somalia, South Africa, Madagascar, Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/70/1 *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2030 Agenda), 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 roles and responsibilities of maritime administrations in the implementation of the SDG objectives and targets, including inter alia, SDG 5 "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls" and SDG 14 "Life below water – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development" and other relevant SDGs;²

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALSO the resolutions which impact directly on the direction and objectives of the WOMESA, including inter alia, A/RES/71/254 *Framework for a Renewed United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda 2017-2027*; and the African Union Agenda 2063;

- SDG 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; and
- SDG 17 Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

² Including also:

SDG 4 Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all;

SDG 8 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;

RECOGNIZING WOMESA obligations and responsibilities to implement, through its networks and strategic partners, 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 realization of the 2030 Agenda, including the WOMESA Strategic Plan 2014-2019, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (A/RES/69/313) and the African Union Agenda 2063;

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE to the partnerships and support provided by, in particular:

- .1 The African Union (AU) Commission through its Gender Women and Development Directorate, and noting that the membership of WOMESA is drawn from one of the regions within the AU jurisdiction;
- .2 The Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA) through the support of the PMAESA Secretary General and the collaborative platform agreed through the WOMESA PMAESA Memorandum of Understanding (MoU); and
- .3 The African Shipowners' Association (ASA) through the support of the ASA Secretary General and the partnership principles agreed through the WOMESA ASA MoU.

COMMENDING the successes achieved through the appointment of WOMESA members to policy-making roles and their subsequent impact on their respective national maritime policies and strategies within the governance of their national maritime administrations;

COMMENDING in particular:

- .1 The appointment of Mrs. Nancy Karigithu to the post of Principal Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, Kenya;
- .2 The appointment of Mrs. Catherine Wairi to the post of Managing Director, Kenya Ports Authority, Kenya;
- .3 The appointment of Captain Elizabeth Marami as the first female captain in the capacity of pilot at Kenya Ports Authority, Kenya;
- .4 The appointment of Captain Chipiliro Helen Mponda as captain of passenger and cargo vessels for the Malawi Shipping Company, Malawi; and
- .5 The appointment of Ms Liyuwork Shiferaw, Director, Maritime Administration Directorate, Ethiopian Maritime Affairs Authority who spearheaded the successful audit of Ethiopia's STCW Training and Certification by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), approved in 2017.

WOMESA decides:

- .1 To develop and enhance partnerships and linkages with regional and national entities with a view to creating a positive operational platform for joint programmes and collaboration, including sharing of data and information;
- .2 To secure the recognition and support of relevant national Ministries, maritime and port administrations, and to encourage their engagement with WOMESA programmes and activities;

- .3 To conduct school visits as a regular part of its annual conference/AGM/Governing Council Meeting, in order to raise awareness of children and young adults to the potentials of the maritime sector as a career opportunity and with a view to strengthening the supply of maritime professionals; and
- .4 To undertake an active publicity and information campaign in order to reinforce WOMESA's visibility across the maritime community spectrum by enhancing its communication strategy through information technology.

Calls upon IMO:

- .1 To maintain and, if possible, increase its support, through funding and advisory services to enable WOMESA to achieve its objectives and goals in pursuance of the UN SDGs and, in particular, SDG 5;
- .2 To commission a statistical review of women employed in the maritime sector in the Eastern and Southern Africa region, including seafarers, maritime administrations, maritime training institutions, maritime environment, maritime legislation and other maritime related services to enable the establishment of a baseline study for subsequent benchmarking, monitoring and evaluation purposes;
- .3 To encourage and advise Member States on ways and means to integrate the targets of SDG 5 into their national maritime policies and strategies; and
- .4 To facilitate access to and availing of experts and contributors to each other's platforms for strategic conversations.

Calls upon the African Union Commission (AUC):

- .1 To strengthen its strategic partnership with WOMESA for visibility, networking, linkages and implementation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 through different AU Gender forums;
- .2 To collaborate with WOMESA towards the improvement of safety, security and working conditions for women employed in the formal and informal sectors related to shipping, ports and fisheries;
- .3 To encourage gender equality among African women in the maritime sector by maximizing opportunities and development through the blue economy strategies;
- .4 To promote general cooperation in the implementation of the broader African maritime development agenda as envisaged in the African Maritime Transport Charter, 2050 AIM Strategy; Agenda 2063; Lomé Charter and Protocol on Transport, Communication and Meteorology; and
- .5 To facilitate the identification, funding, and access to required sea time for cadets including in particular female cadets through its strategic partnerships with inter alia, the African Shipowners' Association and other relevant stakeholders.

Calls upon PMAESA and ASA:

- .1 To build cooperation in pursuance of programmes to empower maritime women within their shared jurisdiction of membership by virtue of the respective MoUs executed through WOMESA; and
- .2 To facilitate the access to mandatory sea time for cadets, including in particular female cadets, through their strategic partnerships.

ANNEX 2

2017 RESOLUTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARAB WOMEN IN MARITIME ASSOCIATION (AWIMA) ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT – 15 TO 19 OCTOBER 2017

The delegates,

RECALLING the International Maritime Organization's (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 empower women as key maritime resources;

RECALLING FURTHER the 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 their 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, though 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 SDG 5, 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 cost-neutral 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 (WMU), 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 Arab Women in Maritime Association: establishment, hostship and governance guidelines, as the foundation for the establishment and operation of this Association.

ANNEX 3

2017 RESOLUTION ON THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN MARITIME, ASIA (WIMA ASIA): TRANSITIONING FROM MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) DILI, TIMOR-LESTE – 6 TO 10 NOVEMBER 2017

The participants,

RECALLING the International Maritime Organization's (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 their 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 equity and empower all women and girls";

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;

RECOGNIZING ALSO the importance of SDG 17 to "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 Asian region in enhancing the harmonized management of safe, secure and efficient shipping on clean seas;

hereby resolve to:

- 1. **INVITE** IMO Member States in the Asian region to:
 - 1. align their national goals with those of the SDGs, notably SDG 5, and generate a symbiosis with the activities of the ITCP with a view to meeting the challenge of realizing the 2030 Agenda;

- 2. work with national agencies responsible for gender matters so that maritime-specific SDG targets are integrated into the national planning, monitoring and resource allocation programmes;
- 3. encourage equal access and protection of women at all levels of maritime education, training and research and to strengthen the national mechanisms for the employment of women in the maritime sector;
- 4. facilitate the development and funding of training modalities for women managers, including on-the-job attachments with national maritime administrations, to accelerate the transfer of knowledge and to enable female officials to gain practical experience in technical and maritime administration processes;
- 5. introduce mentorship programmes within the maritime sector, a cost-neutral mechanism for encouraging retention and development of women officials at entry level and middle management;
- 6. nominate women professionals in IMO training events, fellowships and entry to the World Maritime University (WMU), the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), and the International Maritime Safety, Security and Environment Academy (IMSSEA); and
- 7. encourage and support the establishment of a national "Women in Maritime Association" in their respective jurisdiction with a view to making it a partner in achieving SDG targets;
- 2. **ENCOURAGE** the maritime industry and its stakeholders to develop and strengthen gender-neutral operational frameworks, which support access of women to employment opportunities, career advancement and mobility towards the highest level, based on qualifications and experience.
- 3. **URGE** IMO to support the WIMA Asia "Framework of Strategy" and to take the necessary action towards actualization of WIMA Asia's work programme for 2018-2019.