



# ASIAN SHIPOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

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Shanghai, China

## **PRESS RELEASE** **One Asia, One Voice**

In a distinguished gathering of Asian shipowning interest, over 170 delegates attended the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual General meeting of the Asian Shipowners' Forum in Shanghai on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

To better reflect the present structure of ASF, it was agreed that a new name Asian Shipowners' Association (ASA) will now be adopted.

ASA is committed to providing a united Asian voice on issues affecting shipping and representing their members' interest.

Of the many pressing issues raised during the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, the following were highlighted for particular consideration:

- The need for stable and transparent Panama and Suez Canal tolls in future.
- The Spanish court judgement regarding the MV Prestige and the impact this may have on the 1992 Civil Liability Convention.
- The need for eternal vigilance to counter piracy and armed robbery in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore.
- The importance of the implementation of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC) .
- The EU's proposal to potentially introduce a levy on all ships entering EU ports related to ship recycling.

For more information on these issues, refer to the Report of the Meeting.

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*The Asian Shipowners' Association (ASA) is a voluntary organization of the shipowner associations of Australia, China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Korea and the Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations comprising shipping associations of ASEAN countries. The aims of the ASA are to promote the interests of Asian shipowners. Between annual ASA meetings, the ongoing work is carried out by five Standing Committees: The Shipping Economics Review Committee, the Seafarers Committee, the Ship Recycling Committee, the Safe Navigation and Environment Committee, and the Ship Insurance and Liability Committee. It has been estimated that ASA shipowners and managers control and operate around 50% of the world's cargo carrying fleet.*