



The Society of Master Mariners of South Africa

Notice is hereby given that the 66th Congress of the Society will be held at Simonstown in the Lawhill Maritime Centre on Friday August 27 2010

Lunch and refreshments will be served

AGENDA

0900-1600hrs

1. Present
2. Apologies
3. Presidents address
4. Confirmation of the minutes of the 65th Congress at Durban
5. Matters arising from the 65th Congress
6. Honorary Treasurers Report
7. Honorary Secretary Report
8. Prizes
9. Membership of IFSMA
10. Marine Education and Training Reports
 - i) Cape Town.
 - ii) Port Elizabeth
 - iii) Durban
 - iv) Richards Bay
11. Membership Reports
 - i) Branch secretaries to complete this survey for tabling
12. Items for debate at congress:

CAPE TOWN BRANCH ITEMS FOR CONGRESS 2010

ITEM No. 1

" The Society undertakes to fully fund (via the Central Fund) and to appointment a



The Society of Master Mariners of South Africa

properly mandated and qualified contractor to research and make recommendations to the Society on the specific strategies required to upgrade the Master Unlimited Certificate of Competency from NQF level 6 to NQF level 7"

MOTIVATION

The South African Master's Unlimited Certificates of Competency have been downgraded within the new National Qualifications Framework (NQF) to Diploma level (NQF Level 6). Prior to this change the same qualification was considered equivalent to Bachelor's Degree level (NQF Level 7). This means that institutions dependent on NQF-based job grading structures (e.g. Maritime college & university lecturers, SAMSA examiners) have extreme difficulty attracting suitably qualified and experienced individuals into employment given the salary scales available to the matching NQF Level 6 qualifications.

It has now become a serious concern among our members that should this situation continue and suitably qualified and experienced personnel not be attracted to these important jobs, South Africa faces the potential loss of IMO "White List" status and the international of acceptance of our Certificates of Competency that go with it.

ITEM No. 2

"The Constitution of The Society of Master Mariners South Africa be amended to remove the requirement for all payments by the Society of Five Hundred Rands or more to be made by cheque" .

MOTIVATION

Clause 12G of the constitution says " All payments by the Society of Five Hundred Rands or more shall be made by cheque". This is an unnecessary limitation on the introduction of internet banking technology. Cheques signed by two signatories are no more secure than an internet payment (which can be limited to a given daily maximum if considered necessary) via a reputable bank and which is released (i.e. signed off) independently by two or more separate password holders. Internet banking is now a mature technology widely used by business and individuals. Additionally, the wide spread of signatories and beneficiaries geographically; members who travel more extensively these days; the unprofessional delay in refunding a member who is out of pocket on behalf of the Society are all good reasons to allow Exco and Branches to use this technology.

ITEM No. 3

"The Constitution of The Society of Master Mariners South Africa be amended to allow for the consolidation of the Executive Committee and its associated Branch into a single entity for the period during which the Executive Committee is located at a place."



The Society of Master Mariners of South Africa

MOTIVATION

Changes within South Africa generally and the maritime industry specifically since 1994 have significantly impacted on the local maritime industry. The international acceptance of South Africa and South African qualifications has resulted in the South African mariner becoming marketable outside of the country.

This change, compounded by concerns about affirmative action, the “downgrading” of marine qualification requirements within South African ports (traditionally a mainstay of our membership) and the demise the South African-flagged fleet has resulted in a massive loss of qualified mariners (including many of our potential and actual members) out of the country.

The relatively small number of locally resident and locally employed Master Mariners remaining in South Africa has significantly reduced the pool of potential members available to participate in monthly Society meetings and other organised events. Ample proof of this is the difficulty experienced in Durban where there are not enough involved members to operate Exco and a fully functional Branch. It is fair to say that the same problem would be encountered in Cape Town (and any other Branch for that matter) should any other Branch be required to host Exco and a Branch at the same time.

The only solution is to consolidate the Exco and associated Branch membership into a single entity where our limited, active membership can be more efficiently deployed.

ITEM No. 4

2010 IMO “The Year of the Seafarer”

ITEM No. 5

9th December 2010 is the Society’s 70th anniversary

13 General

14 Honorariums

15 Election of Executive Branch and office bearers

16 Nomination of outside Vice President

17 Central Fund Budget

18 Budget Review

- i) Budget Review [Budget estimate attached]
- ii) Subscriptions and Entrance Fees for next year

19 Press Release



The Society of Master Mariners of South Africa

20Date and venue for 67th Congress

DELEGATES INFORMATION

- Delegations are reminded to bring a copy of last year minutes; we are unable to photocopy documents at this venue. (Attached for perusal and printing)
- Sufficient copies of training reports should be made available for branches and secretariat. As with any other documentation delegations may wish to table.
- A Luncheon will be served at the venue together with am coffee, pm tea breaks.