



## IMSO NEWS 108

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### IMSO-100

**IMSO's membership reaches 100 Member States  
with the accession of Georgia to the IMSO Convention**



*From left to right: Captain Esteban Pacha, IMSO Director General, H.E. Mr Revaz Gachechiladze, Ambassador of Georgia, Mr Koji Sekimizu, IMO Secretary-General, and Captain Mamuka Akhaladze, Director of Georgian Transport Agency, at IMO Headquarters on 12 January on the occasion of the deposit by Georgia of the instrument of accession to the IMSO Convention*

The IMSO Director General, Captain Esteban Pacha-Vicente, announced that Georgia has acceded to the IMSO Convention today, 12 January 2015, bringing the total membership to 100. The Instrument of Accession was today presented to the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), Mr Koji Sekimizu, as Depositary of the IMSO Convention, by His Excellency Revaz Gachechiladze, Ambassador of Georgia to the United Kingdom and Permanent Representative of Georgia to IMO, and Captain Mamuka Akhaladze, Director of the Maritime Transport Agency of Georgia.

Mr Sekimizu congratulated IMSO on reaching this important milestone, reiterating the important work of IMSO in the field of safety of navigation through efficient maritime communications.

Captain Pacha expressed his satisfaction with the culmination of one of his personal ambitions, when he took office in 2007: namely the target of growing the membership from 91 during his eight year tenure as Director General to 100, which has today been achieved. Membership in the Organization has grown steadily since the entry into force of the original Convention almost 35 years ago in July 1979: 28 States were the founder Members of the Organization, increasing to 88 at the time of privatization in 1999, and reaching today 100.

Captain Pacha formally welcomed Georgia to the membership of IMSO, a further reminder to all States of the importance of all IMO Conventions, which ensure that fair and equitable internationally accepted regulations are at the forefront of maritime safety. Captain Pacha also takes this opportunity to express his satisfaction for the increased interest of non-member States, which are considering or in the process of joining IMSO, in the activities of the Organization.

Captain Pacha continues to promote the values of IMSO and to encourage both Member and non-member States to be actively involved in the activities of the Organization.