



## **IMSO NEWS 024**

**4 November 2009**

### **IMSO ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETS IN VENICE, ITALY**

The Twenty-Fifth Session of the Advisory Committee of the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) met in Venice, Italy from 2 to 4 November 2009, under the Chairmanship of Captain David Bruce of the Marshall Islands.

On behalf of the Administration of Italy, Rear Admiral Giancarlo Olimbo, Maritime Attaché and Alternate Permanent Representative of Italy to the International Maritime Organization, and Rear Admiral Stefano Vignani, Harbour Master and Head of the Venice Coast Guard, welcomed all participants to Venice.

The Meeting was attended by representatives from the following countries, which are Member States of IMSO:

Argentina, Bahamas, Canada, Chile, Germany, Croatia, Indonesia, Italy, Republic of Korea, Liberia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Russian Federation, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States. In addition, the following IMSO Member States were represented at Observers: Algeria, Brazil, Monaco, Switzerland. Observers from the International Maritime Organization and the European Commission were also present.

A photograph of the participants is attached.

The Committee expressed its appreciation for the interesting and informative presentations made by Venice Mayor Cacciari, MOSE, the most important infrastructure against "high water", and VTP

The Committee agreed the IMSO budget for 2010, including LRIT audit fees. The Committee also agreed procedures for auditing the performance of all LRIT Data Centres in the new international system for the Long Range Identification and Tracking of Ships (LRIT). IMSO is the internationally appointed Coordinator of the LRIT system.

Other issues discussed include the status of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and other LRIT issues including the LRIT business plan and charging formula.

The Committee also witnessed the execution of LRIT Services Agreements between IMSO with the Republic of Korea and with Liberia.

The LRIT system become operational on 1 July 2009 and the IMSO Director General is pleased to report that the current status of the LRIT system is as follows:

- a total of 31 LRIT Data Centres have been integrated into the LRIT system by IMSO:

Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda (UK), Cayman Islands (UK), Chile, China, Croatia, European Union, Faroe Islands (Denmark), India, Isle of Man (UK), Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Liberia, Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Panama, Russian Federation, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Turkey, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

- A further 6 Centres (Bolivia, Ecuador, Egypt, Montenegro, Qatar, Ukraine) are in the process of testing, and are expected to be integrated shortly. This will bring the total number of integrated Data Centres, including prototypes, to 43 overall.
- towards the end of 2009 and during 2010, IMSO will be auditing those centres which have been integrated, as well as the interim International LRIT Data Exchange, on a phased basis in line with their integration dates/start of operations, as appropriate, in accordance with the decisions of the MSC
- IMSO has so far signed 25 LRIT Services Agreements with the following LRIT Data Centres:

Australia, Bahrain, Belize, Bermuda (UK), Canada, Cayman Islands (UK), Chile, Croatia, Ecuador, European Union, Faroe Islands (Denmark), India, Isle of Man (UK), Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Republic of Korea, Liberia, Marshall Islands, Pakistan, Panama, Qatar, Sierra Leone, South Africa and Turkey.

- Further Agreements are in an advanced stage of negotiation, and are expected to be signed in advance of the above mentioned audits.

The next session of the Advisory Committee will be held from 17 to 19 March 2010 at which the Committee is expected to finalize its recommendations to the Twenty-First Session of the IMSO Assembly to be held in London from 12 to 16 July 2010



**Delegates**



**From the left:**  
**Rear Admiral Stefano VIGNANI (Venezia Harbour Master)**  
**Captain Esteban PACHA-PACHA (Director General IMSO)**  
**Captain David J. F. BRUCE (Chairman of IMSO Advisory Committee)**  
**Rear Admiral Giancarlo OLIMBO (Alternate Permanent Representative of Italy to IMO)**