

TO	:	Pacific diplomatic missions
DATE	:	06 April 2016
SUBJECT	:	Pre-MEPC 69 summary briefing on shipping emissions paper

Purpose

1. To provide a final briefing to Pacific diplomatic missions in preparation for the 69th Session of the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 69), commencing on 18 April 2016. The brief brings attention to previous information updates and puts forth key recommendations for the consideration of Pacific Island governments.

Documentation

2. Since the commence of consultations among Pacific Island countries on the issue of supporting and co-sponsoring the MEPC 69 proposal on reduction of shipping emissions, the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) has provided regular updates to Pacific diplomatic missions and other stakeholders on related developments. The previous briefing papers provide a comprehensive background to the issue.

Recommendations

3. Pacific Island governments are invited to:
 - (i) Note the various briefing papers that have been circulated by PIDF to keep all stakeholders informed of consultations and submissions involving the MEPC 69 proposal on shipping emission reductions.
 - (ii) Demonstrate support from the floor by speaking in favour of the MEPC 69 shipping emissions paper that has been co-sponsored by Solomon Islands, Marshall Islands and other international partners – an important consideration for Pacific Island countries with representatives at MEPC 69.
 - (iii) Note that the major debate on setting emission-reduction targets for international shipping is highly likely to take place at MEPC 70 (24–28 October 2016, London). Efforts are currently underway to seek funding that would enable participation of a larger Pacific Island delegation to this meeting.

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