

Conclusion of the Workshop on the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds Regime

[Kochi, 19 January 2024]

Kochi recently played host to the Workshop on the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds Regime held on 19th January 2024. This workshop was a collaborative effort organised by the Directorate General of Shipping in partnership with the International Oil Pollution Compensation (IOPC) Funds, the International Group of P&I Associations, the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Ltd. (ITOPF), Seven Islands Shipping Ltd. and MOL (India) Pvt. Ltd.



Held aboard the ‘Classic Imperial’ cruise ship at Marine Drive, the workshop served as a pivotal platform for addressing global concerns related to oil spills in the ocean.

The inaugural session was graced by Shri T. K. Ramachandran, IAS, Secretary of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, who was the chief guest and inaugurated the workshop virtually. He emphasised the workshop's significance in fostering a unified approach to tackling the challenges of global oil pollution. The day unfolded with insightful sessions covering various facets of the compensation regime and its practical applications, featuring distinguished speakers from IOPC Funds, ITOPF, and other esteemed organisations.





Expert discussions delved into crucial topics such as claims for clean-up and preventive measures, economic losses, environmental damage, and the Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) Convention. Noteworthy presentations, including a detailed case study on the MT Princess Empress incident, highlighted the complexities and best practices in managing oil spill incidents.

The workshop facilitated interactive sessions, allowing participants to engage with experts and seek clarification on various compensation regime aspects, which provided a dynamic exchange of ideas.

Expressing gratitude to speakers, dignitaries, participants, organizers, and sponsors, the event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks. Attendees departed with a wealth of knowledge and a deeper understanding of the challenges and solutions associated with oil spill incidents. The workshop's success is attributed to collaborative efforts, with special acknowledgment to the hosts for hosting this impactful event.



Looking ahead, organizers anticipate continued engagement and collaboration in addressing global environmental challenges. The International Oil Pollution Compensation Workshop, fostering knowledge sharing and reinforcing a commitment to a sustainable and responsible maritime industry, marks a significant contribution to the pursuit of a cleaner and safer maritime environment.
