



# Asian Shipowners' Association

## Safe Navigation & Environment Committee (SNEC)

c/o Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations (FASA)

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### *SNEC Would Welcome Review of BMP4*

At the 33<sup>rd</sup> Interim Meeting of the Asian Shipowners' Association (ASA) Safe Navigation & Environment Committee (SNEC) held in Singapore on Tuesday 17 October 2017, the Committee was pleased to note that there had been a substantial decrease in the number of reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore. Similarly, the Committee was pleased to note that the Littoral States of Malaysia, Indonesia and Philippines have launched joint maritime patrols with the right of hot pursuit, as well as joint air patrols, to maintain maritime security in the Sulu Sea.

In this regard, the Committee expressed its appreciation for the continued vigilance and pro-active maritime security initiatives on the part of the ASEAN States in combating piracy and armed robbery in ASEAN waters. The Meeting acknowledged the multilateral efforts that have been put in to combat piracy and armed robbery as being in the finest traditions of ASEAN cooperation and solidarity, and urged ASEAN member states to continue with their good works to ensure the safety and security of ships in ASEAN waters.

The Committee further noted that the situation off East Africa had also stabilized, as the deployment of naval vessels with a mandate to pre-emptively counter incidents of maritime piracy, the adoption of private armed security and widespread adoption of the measures put forward by BMP4 have helped cut attacks.

The situation in the region has grown increasingly complex, however. In this regard, the Committee is of the opinion that it may be timely for industry to update BMP4 to reflect the current situation in the region so as to ensure that our seafarers have access to the most relevant and up-to-date information.

During the Meeting, the Committee also held discussions on other issues of concern relating to safe navigation and environmental protection, such as the upcoming 2020 global sulphur cap and the Ballast Water Convention.

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**Editor's note:**

*The Asian Shipowners' Association is a voluntary organization of the shipowner associations of Australia, China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Korea and the Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations comprising shipping associations of ASEAN countries. The aims of the ASA are to promote the interests of the Asian shipowning industries. Between annual ASA meetings, the ongoing work is carried out by the five Standing Committees; the Shipping Economics Review Committee, the Seafarers Committee, the Ship Recycling Committee, the Safe Navigation and Environment Committee, and the Ship Insurance and Liability Committee. It has been estimated that ASA owners and managers control and operate nearly 50% of the world's cargo carrying fleet.*

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