



International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH)

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The World Ports Climate Initiative launched by IAPH

The International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH) held with assistance of Port of Los Angeles an inaugural meeting of the World Ports Climate Initiative in Los Angeles from November 23rd to 25th 2008. Some 50 experts attended the meeting, representing port authorities in Europe, Americas, Africa and Asia, regional port associations such as AAPA and ESPO, consulting firms and research institutes.

Following up [the IAPH resolution on port climate action adopted in Dunkirk](#) last April and also the World Ports Climate Declaration adopted in Rotterdam last July, IAPH launched the global platform called the World Ports Climate Initiative, which is open to IAPH member ports and non-member ports alike. The two-day symposium was to establish a basic framework and work plan for the WPCI as well as to exchange experiences of climate action and technical know-how among port authorities and expert organizations. It was agreed that Chair of IAPH Port Environment Committee, Dr Geraldine Knatz, CEO of Port of Los Angeles, chairs the WPCI with IAPH Managing Director, Fer van de Laar, being Director of the WPCI bureau for overall coordination.

The meeting also discussed extensively case reports among others on climate action, carbon footprint inventory, modeling approaches and innovation of terminal equipment. Also discussed was how to expand [the IAPH Tool Box for Port Clean Air Programs](#) to include reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from port activity.

Dr. Geraldine Knatz stressed a critical need to involve as many ports as possible in WPCI activity, asking special cooperation of regional port associations in this respect. She also urged IAPH members to take active part in the Committee of Port Environment. Dr. Satoshi Inoue, Secretary General, IAPH, expressed the IAPH's full support to the WPCI to promote the world's ports undertakings to improve port air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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The International Association of Ports & Harbors (IAPH) is the global alliance of ports around the world. Established in 1955 as an international Non-Governmental Organization, IAPH represents today some 220 ports and 130 port-related companies and institutes of about 90 countries. Member ports all together handle 90% of the world container traffic and over 60% of the world maritime trade. IAPH tackles through Technical Committees a wide range of key issues facing the world port industry. Granted a Consultative NGO Status from UN agencies, IAPH also plays an active role in developing international frameworks for global issues related to maritime and trade activity. For inquiry and information, please contact us at info@iaphworldports.org or call us at +81-3-5403-2770.