

**Resolution on urging ratification of the Hong Kong Convention
Adopted on June 4, 2015 at the 29th IAPH World Ports Conference
in Hamburg, Germany**

Being aware that ship recycling is an essential process for maritime industry from the perspective of enhancing safety and efficiency which significance is even higher through the acceleration of fleet renewals which is taking place at the moment,

Being further aware that the scrapping of the majority of ships is taking place in only a few states under dangerous and unhealthy working conditions and with affecting serious impact on maritime environment,

Recognizing that in close cooperation with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Parties to the Basel Convention, the States in the International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted the Hong Kong Convention on May 15, 2009, intending to materialize safe and healthy working conditions for recycling workers with eliminating environmental impact from ship recycling,

Recognizing further that the Hong Kong Convention imposes strict legislative requirements both to ship owners and recycling yards,

Acknowledging that the Hong Kong Convention is left ineffective with getting only few ratifications, as many other states have concerns about future capacities of ship recycling yards which are able to comply with the requirements of the Hong Kong Convention,

Taking in mind further that the Europe Union implemented its own regulation on ship recycling on December 30, 2013, applying both onto ships flying EU Member States' flags and also other ships calling EU states' ports, with the aim to come to the early implementation of the Hong Kong Convention in the EU,

Noting that the EU is now in the process of assessing conditions of recycling facilities for listing on the European List as their approved facilities complying with EU requirements,

On a proposal duly seconded, it is unanimously resolved that

1. IAPH appreciates the efforts made by IMO and other international organizations for establishing new schemes for ship recycling to ensure safe, healthy and environmentally sustainable conditions of ship recycling.
2. IAPH also appreciates the endeavor of the European Union to accelerate the process of reforming ship recycling by implementing a scheme in the EU.
3. IAPH urges States to accelerate their ratification process for the Hong Kong Convention and initiate and support financial schemes which makes it possible to come to a responsible way of recycling ships.