

## TECHNICAL SERVICE CIRCULAR

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### MARITIME ACTIVITIES CONSULTANTS S.A.

*"CONNECTING YOUR BUSINESS  
TO THE MARITIME RESOURCES YOU NEED"*

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#### **Subject: "I.M.O. Facilitation Committee (FAL 46), 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022 Highlights"**

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**Summary:** The I.M.O. Facilitation Committee (FAL 46) 46th session was held remotely, from 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> of May 2022. The Committee's agenda key topics among others included the "Single Window" for ship data exchange to become mandatory under FAL treaty amendments, tackling maritime corruption & the IMO Compendium on Facilitation and Electronic Business.

#### **Background**

1. The I.M.O. Facilitation Convention was adopted in 1965 and contains standards and recommended practices and rules for simplifying formalities, documentary requirements, and procedures on ships' arrival, stay, and departure. Emphasis is attributed to the fact that the Convention has been updated continuously, embracing digitalization and automation for procedures.
2. Of particular relevance according to the IMO Secretariat is the fact that IMO's Facilitation Committee has adopted amendments to the Facilitation (FAL) Convention which will make the single window for data exchange mandatory in ports around the world, marking a significant step in the acceleration of digitalization in shipping. The amendments to the annex of the Convention will make it mandatory for public authorities to establish, maintain and use single window systems for the electronic exchange of information required on arrival, stay, and departure of ships in ports. In addition, public authorities will have to combine or coordinate the electronic transmission of the data to ensure that information is submitted or provided only once and reused to the maximum extent possible.
3. The Committee approved an updated version of the IMO Compendium on Facilitation and Electronic Business (the IMO Compendium).

#### **Service Offered by M.A.C.**

4. M.A.C. S.A. based on its wide expertise for detailed monitoring of international legal and institutional developments is focusing on those standards and recommended practices and rules for simplifying formalities, documentary requirements, and procedures with relevance for the efficient operation of international registries and seafarers' certification procedures. In this respect of particular relevance is the approval of an updated version of the IMO Compendium on Facilitation and Electronic Business, which includes new data sets: "Ship reporting systems"; "Ship and company certificates"; "Ship registry and company details"; "Inspections" and "Port State Control inspection history data".



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