

26th IMPA Congress Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 21-26 April

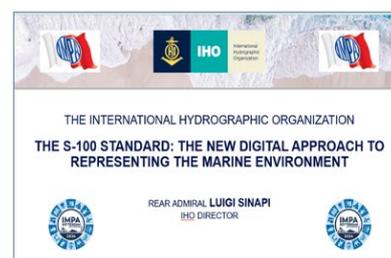
Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2024	
Task 1.1.15.5	IMPA (International Maritime Pilots' Association)

The 26th Congress of the International Maritime Pilots' Association - IMPA was held in the Postillion Convention Centre WTC Rotterdam from 21 to 26 April and was organized by the Dutch Pilots' Corporation in cooperation with the International Maritime Pilots' Association. All the information related to the Congress can be found at the link <https://www.impa2024.com/>. The IHO Secretariat was represented by Director Luigi Sinapi.



26th IMPA Congress, WTC Rotterdam

The Congress benefited from a rich programme of speakers from within the IMPA community, as well as from industry, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations with whom IMPA works and the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The speakers addressed the safety of pilots on duty, environmental regulations and the impact on piloting, a sustainable profession and human capital, environmental sustainability of pilotage as a public service, recent technology, and stakeholders' engagement.



IHO Director presenting on S-100 standard

IHO Director Sinapi gave a presentation “*The S-100 standard: the new digital approach to representing the marine environment*” whilst on the panel “*Ship handling and Operations: Opportunities and Challenges*”, which was dedicated to international, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations’ speakers. The presentation reflected the huge revolution that the S-100 is introducing in the way to represent the marine environment and provided an overview on the *state-of-the-art* of S-100 products and services, highlighting the efforts of the IHO and the international community in the implementation phase of the new S-100 standard. The results of the first testbeds conducted in various parts of the world by different agencies on the use of S-100 products and services, and the respective economic and ecological benefits were also presented.



IHO Director and IMPA Secretary General with the recent signed IMPA-IHO Letter of Intent

The opportunity was also useful to provide an update on the upcoming S-101 demonstration that will be conducted onboard the ITS *Amerigo Vespucci*, engaged in a world tour, following the cooperation between Italy and the IHO-Singapore Lab, and on the *Letter of Intent (LoI)* signed by the IHO and IMPA. The main purpose of the LoI is to focus on the implementation of the S-100 Universal Hydrographic Data Model and the experimentation and testbed of its derived products at the regional and national level, through the involvement of the national Hydrographic Offices and Regional Hydrographic Commissions from the IHO, and the pilots’ organizations within the membership of IMPA.

On the panel “*Ship handling and Operations: Opportunities and Challenges*”, were also presentations by the IMO and IALA representatives – who highlighted respectively on the “*2023 IMO Strategy on reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships*” and “*Advances in Aids to Navigation and VTS to support Efficient Shipping Operations*”. This last also including some highlights on the progress of the development of series S-200 products – deserve mention.