



CESS, Committee for Expertise of Shipbuilding Specifics (CESS) held its annual meeting in Sapporo, Japan, 5 September, 2013 where the members associations Japan, Europe, China, Korea and U.S.A. gathered and discussed key issues surrounding the global shipbuilding industry. The meeting was hosted by Japan.

The meeting made the review on its activities in the past year and activities expected in the year ahead, and exchanged views to seek further cooperation in voicing common opinion on important issues, where the main issues were, GHG reduction schemes, Ballast Water Management Systems, Intellectual Property Rights issues on Goal Based Standards Ship Construction File, and other issues in relation to the regulatory matters.

The meeting observed that CESS continued to appeal to the counterparts of the maritime industry of the importance to share views on important matters and to proactively present their position well in advance in order to find practical solutions that will more widely address the issues from view points of stakeholders in the maritime industry.

Discussions covered the points as to how to address new technology that may have influence the regulatory developments and to learn from experience as to how to constructively contribute to rule making from practical point of view, and also to be prepared for a wider contribution to the related industries to help develop the framework for GHG reduction schemes being discussed at IMO.

The reports on Port State Control activities both in Paris and Tokyo MOU during 2012 were made, and it was noted that both regions were steadily carrying out their activities as in the previous years. The report further confirms the observations made in the past years that shipbuilding quality related deficiencies are continuing to be on the

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decline. Concerns of increase in deficiencies and detentions were not evident but it may take some more time to determine which direction is likely until further observations are made in the coming years. It is obvious that ageing ships are more likely to have problems that lead to deficiencies and detentions, and that such aspect needs to be closely followed up in the coming years is also necessary.

CESS member associations noted that closer ties among the members continues to be important for the future prosperity of the industry, and in the year ahead, it would be essential to further activate and make effective promotion of solutions in the desired direction, and agreed to support the continuation of the activities and to make report of the results of this meeting to JECKU Top Executive Meeting scheduled to take place in Okinawa between 13th and 15th November 2013.

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