



# Let us ensure that safety remains a top priority

AS JAMAICA joins in the celebration of World Maritime Day, we stand at a crucial juncture in the evolution of global shipping and maritime safety. This year's theme, 'Navigating the future: Safety first!' underscores our collective commitment to ensuring that the maritime industry continues to thrive while prioritising the safety of all who navigate our seas.

While we celebrate the achievements of Jamaica's maritime sector, we must also tackle the challenges ahead, and how best as a nation we can navigate them in ensuring that safety remains a top priority. This year's theme serves as a reminder that the future

of maritime operations hinges on our ability to safeguard human lives and protect our marine environment. It is a call to action for every stakeholder in the maritime sector – whether in government, industry, or civil society – to work collaboratively to ensure that the seas remain a safe, clean space for all organisms and guardians of the sea.

Jamaica's maritime industry has always been a beacon of excellence in the Caribbean, providing critical support for trade, transportation and the livelihoods of thousands. Jamaica also plays an integral role in the International Maritime Organization (IMO) as a key member state. Having successfully secured a seat on Category

'C' of the IMO Council, December 2023, Jamaica will continue to work closely with international partners to align the policies and practices with global safety standards. The Government remains unwavering in its dedication to the safety of our seafarers and all who navigate the seas. The Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport, through the Maritime Authority of Jamaica, remains committed to improving and reinforcing the maritime frameworks to ensure that Jamaica upholds its position as a leader in maritime safety standards, both within the Caribbean and on the global stage.

As we celebrate World Maritime Day, let us be reminded of the importance of maritime safety to the future of global trade, environmental sustainability, and the well-being of all who rely on the seas. Jamaica remains firmly committed to 'Navigating the Future' with 'Safety First'. Maritime safety does not happen by chance. It is the result of continuous efforts by all stakeholders who ensure that the standards, protocol and necessary technologies required to maintain safety at sea are adhered to and regularly updated.

Together, let us continue 'Navigating the Future' with 'Safety First'.

Happy World Maritime Day, Jamaica.



**DARYL VAZ**  
Minister of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport

THE GREEN and just transition in maritime energy is inevitable, yet it is also an opportunity for the industry. The maritime industry inherently offers the lowest greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption among all the transport modes, and has a wide range of technical possibilities for energy saving and replacement of fossil fuel with sustainable options. Maritime transport has great opportunities for adopting carbon-free energy sources, given the dimensions of commercial vessels, and given that vast renewable energy resources are available on the world's oceans.

However, specific technical and technology issues are not the only

## Education and training for maritime leaders in the age of the green transition

issues regarding sustainability as a whole. The concept of greener shipping must be seen as relevant to all aspects of the industry, from maritime education for sustainability, to maritime law, insurance, shipbuilding, repair and operation, financing, regulation, logistics, port operations, bunkering, brokering, and Flag State and Port State action, etc.

Maritime education, indeed all education, has a critical role to play in making this current

generation and ones to come, appreciate the importance of good stewardship of the natural environment in which the maritime industry operates.

Aside from covering the technical competencies required in all the professional areas of the maritime sector, it is critical to give similar weight to education for the world's future maritime leaders. As and when global standards are agreed and adopted at the International Maritime Organization (IMO), success in implementation will ultimately

depend on strong and concerted partnerships and collaboration between all the stakeholders – public and private – in the global system of maritime governance.

Education, training, and capacity-development for all industry stakeholders will be critical to the successful implementation of global maritime standards. It is this education and capacity-development mission – the development of a global cadre of future maritime and oceans leaders – that lies at

the heart of World Maritime University's mission as an international postgraduate institution of the IMO. In a maritime world transitioning to decarbonisation, education, training, and capacity-development are needed more than ever before to ensure that future maritime leaders and professionals are equipped with cutting-edge and state-of-the-art knowledge, skills, network, and competence to serve as the major drivers that we need towards global stability



**MEJIA JR**  
and sustainable development in the maritime sector, for the good of humanity.  
**PROF MAXIMO O. MEJIA JR**  
President, World Maritime University, Malmö, Sweden



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# WORLD MARITIME DAY 2024

"NAVIGATING THE FUTURE SAFETY FIRST"



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# The SAJ celebrates the progress made in maritime safety

I AM privileged to share in the celebration of World Maritime Day, themed 'Navigating the Future: Safety First'. This important occasion invites us to acknowledge the critical role shipping plays in our global economy and to renew our dedication to maintaining the highest standards of safety and security within our industry. This year's theme is especially pertinent as it emphasises the significant need to prioritise safety while navigating the rapidly evolving maritime landscape.

Our industry faces

significant challenges that demand our immediate attention. Rapid technological advancements, such as automation and digitalisation, bring substantial benefits but also introduce new risks. The potential risks of developments such as autonomous vessels, among others, highlight the urgent need for robust safety protocols and ongoing training to manage these innovations effectively.

Climate change presents another pressing challenge, with extreme weather events increasingly affecting

maritime operations. As we deepen our understanding of these severe weather patterns and their impacts on our vessels and crews, it is crucial to integrate this knowledge into our practices. By doing so, we can better manage risks and enhance safety to protect lives at sea.

The International Maritime Organization's (IMO) steady commitment to safety is evident in its efforts to develop regulations that adapt to technological advancements while upholding high safety standards. This commitment aligns with several United

Nations Sustainable Development Goals, including climate action and the preservation of our oceans and marine resources.

As we mark the 50th anniversary of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, we celebrate the progress made in maritime safety. This milestone highlights our collective commitment to maintain and advance safety standards.

The Shipping Association of Jamaica is resolute in its commitment to these principles. Moving forward,

we will continue to promote innovation and address the challenges ahead. We must continue to advocate for policies that promote safety, efficiency, and environmental responsibility. We must also work closely with the Government, regulatory authorities, and other stakeholders to ensure that our industry remains competitive and sustainable.

Let us use World Maritime Day to reaffirm our dedication to safety, embrace new technologies responsibly, and work together to navigate the future with confidence



**ROBERTSON-SYLVESTER**

and care. Together, we can ensure a safer and more sustainable future for the shipping industry and the global economy.

Thank you.

CORAH ANN  
ROBERTSON-SYLVESTER  
President  
Shipping Association of  
Jamaica

# All hands on deck to tackle new challenges

JAMAICA JOINS with International Maritime Organization (IMO), the United Nations specialised agency for the regulation of

international shipping, in celebrating World Maritime Day 2024 under the theme 'Navigating the Future: Safety First'.

Safety is at the heart of shipping in Jamaica, and without an internationally acceptable regulatory framework for the regulation of ship safety, many of the vital goods we rely on to sustain our economy would not arrive intact and on time at our ports.

The Maritime Authority is the focal point for the IMO in Jamaica and the primary agency responsible for the regulation of the safety of Jamaican ships operating globally, and all ships operating in Jamaican waters. The primary treaty governing ship safety is the International Convention on the Safety of Life at Sea, commonly called the SOLAS Convention, which was adapted in the aftermath of the Titanic disaster in 1912 but is constantly revised

to meet the new challenges facing international shipping, including increasing size and complexity of cruise ships, autonomous ships, and terrorism, the latter which resulted in the adoption of the International Ship and Port Facility Code (ISPS Code), which is implemented in port facilities across Jamaica.

Maritime Authority and other regulatory stakeholders are taking steps to future proof the shipping industry by adopting measures that will respond to extreme weather conditions at sea and the carriage of methanol, hydrogen, ammonia and other new zero-carbon fuels that will have to be used by ships to comply with the IMO's GHG emissions-reduction strategy measures.

This will involve a high level of collaboration with other local public bodies, including the Caribbean Maritime University, Port Authority, Spectrum Management



**SMITH**

Authority, Meteorological Service of Jamaica and the Hydrographic Department of the National Land Agency, the latter which is responsible for the establishment of the depths of our harbours and channels for the preparation of the charts that ships use to navigate safely in our waters.

Navigating the future will indeed require all hands on deck at the local and international levels, as we respond to new challenges and ensure that shipping remains safe and sustainable.

BERTRAND SMITH  
Director General, Maritime  
Authority of Jamaica

**WORLD MARITIME DAY**

**Navigating the Future: Safety First!**

Safety is one of the key pillars of shipping. Good safety standards and practices save lives and property while safeguarding the integrity of businesses and the entire shipping industry. At **Kingston Wharves**, safety is one of our core values and is incorporated into our everyday operations.

*Our priorities are underpinned by the safety and well-being of our people.*



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# Navigating with foresight and preparedness

ON THIS World Maritime Day, we pause to reflect on the dynamic evolution of the maritime industry and the paramount importance of safety as we steer our course into the future. This year's theme, 'Navigating the Future: Safety First', resonates deeply, underscoring our collective responsibility to ensure that maritime practices are both innovative and secure.

The industry stands at the intersection of rapid technological advancement and global challenges, making it imperative to embrace the principle that, to safely navigate the future, we must excel in foresight and preparedness. This principle aligns with the core mission of the Caribbean Maritime University, where we emphasise the critical need to anticipate emerging trends and equip the next generation of maritime leaders with the skills and knowledge necessary to ensure that our operations are both resilient and secure. The safety of our



**SPENCER**

seafarers and the protection of our environment are at the heart of our endeavours.

As global connectors, the future of maritime safety depends on our ability to identify potential risks and seize opportunities. It is incumbent upon us to integrate foresight into our strategic planning and foster a culture of preparedness, allowing us to mitigate risks and enhance safety across all maritime activities. At the Caribbean Maritime University, our

programmes are meticulously designed to keep pace with industry developments, emphasising not only technological innovations but also the rigorous safety standards set forth by the International Maritime Organization, the Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping, and national regulatory bodies.

As we commemorate this World Maritime Day, let us, the pulse of global trade, reaffirm our unwavering commitment to safety. Every innovation and advancement we pursue must be grounded in our dedication to safeguarding lives and preserving the integrity of our oceans. By mastering the art of foresight and preparedness, we can confidently navigate the future, securing a safer and more sustainable maritime industry for generations to come.

PROF ANDREW SPENCER  
University President





**MARITIME  
AUTHORITY OF  
JAMAICA**

*Making maritime development a priority*

# WORLD MARITIME DAY

**SEPTEMBER 26, 2024**



**NAVIGATING  
THE FUTURE:  
SAFETY FIRST!**



The safety of ships, of the people who operate and travel on them, and the safety of our oceans and environment is paramount to the sustainability of shipping worldwide.

On World Maritime Day we acknowledge the important role of our ships, our boats, and our seafarers in delivering trade, and providing vital transport links.

**We thank everyone involved in our maritime community and salute you all.**



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**#WorldMaritimeDay**





# WORLD MARITIME DAY

**NAVIGATING THE FUTURE: SAFETY FIRST!**

As the chief maritime agency of the Government of Jamaica, the Port Authority of Jamaica is resolute in its commitment to safety as we recognize that the maritime sector is a major contributor to the world economy and a critical link for the interconnectivity of people, goods, commodities, and communities across the globe.

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