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INFORMATION

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on Shipping
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Subject:	34th session of the IMO Assembly (A 34) (London, 24 November-3 December) - Note by the Secretary-General - Implementation of resolution A.1183(33) on the impact of the Russian armed invasion of Ukraine on international shipping

Delegations will find attached document A 34/15/1 containing a note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution A.1183(33) on *The impact of the Russian armed invasion of Ukraine on international shipping*.

ASSEMBLY
34th session
Agenda item 15

A 34/15/1
13 November 2025
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**CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF
THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE**

**Implementation of resolution A.1183(33) on the impact of the Russian armed invasion
of Ukraine on international shipping**

Note by the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document provides an update on the implementation of resolution A.1183(33) on *The impact of the Russian armed invasion of Ukraine on international shipping*, specifically on technical cooperation activities supporting the recommendations from the needs assessment mission and efforts to strengthen Ukraine's capacity to implement IMO instruments, ensuring safety, security, environmental protection and trade facilitation in the special maritime corridor.

Strategic direction, if applicable: Not applicable

Output: Not applicable

Action to be taken: Paragraph 11

Related documents: Resolution A.1183(33); C 134/24, C 134/D and A 34/15

Background

1 Resolution A.1183(33) on *The impact of the Russian armed invasion of Ukraine on international shipping* was adopted by the Assembly at its thirty-third session in 2023. The Assembly decided to conduct, as a priority, a needs assessment mission in Ukraine to determine the support required for the implementation of IMO instruments.

Implementation of resolution A.1183(33) – Needs assessment mission to Ukraine

2 In accordance with paragraphs 16 and 17 of resolution A.1183(33), the needs assessment mission was conducted remotely in May 2024 by a consultancy team, in collaboration with the Government of Ukraine and IMO, under IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP). The team assessed and reviewed existing facilities and resources related to the operation of the special maritime corridor established and managed by Ukraine. The assessment produced recommendations that helped define the scope of the

required technical assistance. The study emphasized the need for Ukraine to strengthen its institutional capacity to implement IMO instruments, enhance maritime safety, security and marine environmental protection and promote sustainable maritime trade.

3 Between October and December 2024, IMO also conducted a feasibility study to support Ukraine's accession to the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC), 1990.

4 To support Ukraine's technical assistance needs identified in both the needs assessment and the OPRC study, and in line with the implementation of paragraph 18 of resolution A.1183(33), IMO prepared a project proposal aimed at strengthening Ukraine's capacity to implement IMO instruments and to enhance the safety and security of shipping within its special maritime corridor. The proposal comprised three main components:

- .1 a preliminary costing and scoping study to assess hardware and infrastructure requirements ensuring the resilience and efficiency of the special maritime corridor;
- .2 training workshops on the development of a national contingency plan and the drafting of national legislation to enact the provisions of the OPRC Convention; and
- .3 training and support for the development and implementation of a Maritime Single Window (MSW) action plan.

5 The Secretariat has initiated the recruitment process for a team of consultants under the first project component "costing and scoping study". Two international consultants and one local consultant will be engaged to carry out financial analysis, assess maritime infrastructure and hardware needs and collect local data. In line with the project document, two local implementing partners (IPs) have been identified by Ukraine to support the local execution of project activities, proposing the Odessa Maritime Academy (NUOMA) and the Odessa National Maritime University (ONMU) as potential partners. Discussions with these institutions are ongoing to define the legal arrangements and resource allocations for the services they will provide.

6 Recent adjustments have been made to the project design to better align implementation with operational needs. To manage anticipated challenges, an additional online inception workshop will be convened ahead of the in-person workshop. Following consultations with IMO experts and the IPs, it was also agreed to divide the OPRC-related workshop into two separate activities to ensure more effective training and broader stakeholder participation.

7 Several key milestones are expected in the coming months. Recruitment of consultants for the scoping and costing study is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2025. In parallel, upon securing additional funding and completing the due diligence review, agreements between IMO and the project donors will be finalized. The online inception workshop is planned for early 2026, followed by implementation of subsequent project activities.

8 A number of logistical challenges have emerged relating to security clearance procedures and associated training requirements for consultants and IMO staff. The Secretariat is assessing options to mitigate these issues. Additionally, the overall project budget is expected to remain constrained due to these added security measures, and supplementary donor contributions may be required to ensure the full implementation of all project components.

Donor contributions and in-kind support

9 To date, two contributions have been received to support the project, in line with paragraph 18 of the resolution, including from France (€200,000) and the United Kingdom (£80,000), while discussions with the European Commission (EC) on behalf of the European Union (EU) are ongoing for a possible contribution of €120,000.

10 The Secretariat also launched a competitive call for a Junior Professional Officer (JPO) to support this project within IMO's Technical Cooperation and Implementation Division. In September 2025, a JPO seconded from France joined the Division for a one-year period, with the possibility for extension based on the needs of the project.

Action requested of the Assembly

11 The Assembly is invited to note the information provided and comment as it may deem appropriate.
