

## International Chamber of Shipping

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30 October 2015

SPC(15)34

**TO: SHIPPING POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Copy: Labour Affairs Committee  
All Full and Associate Members (for information)**

### **ITF SUBMISSION TO AUSTRALIAN SENATE INQUIRY**

***Action Required: To note the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) submission to the Australian Senate Inquiry on so-called 'Flags of Convenience'.***

Members may be interested to note the submission made by the ITF to the Australian Senate's *Inquiry into the increasing use of so-called 'Flags of Convenience'*. The submission can also be downloaded at:

[www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport/Shipping/Submissions](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Rural_and_Regional_Affairs_and_Transport/Shipping/Submissions) (submission number 22 on page 2)

The submission, which appears to have been drafted by the ITF's Australian affiliate, includes 56 'Recommendations of the ITF' to the Australian Government (see pages 9-16). These include recommendations that:

- Measures are taken by the Australian Government to retain and support and Australian national fleet;
- Whistleblower protections are introduced into the ILO MLC for crewmembers that witness maritime casualties;
- Australia should push for a separate maximum liability for bunker oil spills to be included in the IMO International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage.
- Australia should promote the mandatory recording of hours of work, as well as hours of rest, by Port State Control Officers.
- International maritime conventions should provide for damage caused to the seabed by the ship's hull, which ITF argues is particularly important in the case of groundings off coral reefs.

The Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport, which is conducting the inquiry, is tasked to provide its report to the Senate by the first sitting day of Parliament in 2016 (understood to be 2 February).

The final ICS submission to the inquiry was circulated as SPC(15)31 in September.

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