



Conference announcement: Impact of Climate Change on the Maritime Industry

ICCMI 2008

World Maritime University

02–04 June 2008

Malmö, Sweden

Climate change is affecting practically all aspects of human life. The maritime sectors, among which shipping, fisheries, offshore oil & gas and coastal tourism, constitute no exception. A number of impacts on all coastal activities are foreseen due to rising sea levels and altered erosion and sedimentation patterns. In shipping, completely new routes at sea might be opened as a result of the melting of the sea ice, particularly in the Arctic. Changes to the incidence and severity of extreme weather events will endanger some of today's natural and man-made systems and require novel adaptation measures. Activities such as fisheries will also be affected by the secondary effects of climate change upon ocean ecosystems.

Despite the wealth of publications and events both on the scientific aspects of climate change and on its impacts upon different socio-economic activities, to our knowledge no major scientific or technical gathering has so far addressed the specific consequences of climate change on the operational aspects of maritime sectors. With this in mind, the World Maritime University shall hold an international conference on this subject, with the title 'ICCMI2008 – Impact of Climate Change on the Maritime Industry.' This event will take place between June 2nd and 4th 2008 in Malmö, Sweden and be a central element in the celebration of WMU's 25th anniversary.

Provisional list of discussion topics:

Group A – Scientific basis

- Climate change scenarios in relation to seas and ocean, e.g. ocean currents, temperatures, ice covers/ice bergs, erosion/sedimentation
- Extreme events such as storms/hurricanes – locations and probabilities
- Coastal observations and observing systems
- Hydrographical implications
- Impacts on marine ecosystems

Group B – Impacts on operations

- Changes to navigational hazards
 - Weather routing
- New routes and associated scenarios
 - Geographical areas of interest for new routes

- Related economical considerations
- Naval-architectural challenges
- Changes to navigational and operational procedures
 - Emergency response
 - Icebreaking
 - Oil pollution
 - Fuel consumption
- Changes to fisheries and fishing operators
 - Biological changes affecting fish stocks
 - Mariculture
- Renewable energy options

Group C – Preparedness and response

- Vulnerability of ports and coastal communities in different world regions to
 - Increased sea levels
 - Increased storm frequency
 - Physical damage
 - Catastrophic events
- Oil spill contingency planning
- Coastal protection options
- Impact on gradient changes, discharge, depth and position of major river outlets
- Effects on large sea-going channels and waterways

For more information refer to

www.iccmi.info



World Maritime University
 P.O. Box 500
 201 24 Malmö
 Sweden
iccmi@wmu.se