MARITIME SECTOR COOPERATION BETWEEN CHINA & DENMARK, Annual report for 2018


Project Description
The full scale Maritime Strategic Sector Cooperation between China and Denmark has been running since May 2017 and is rooted in SDG 8 “Decent Work and Economic Growth” and SDG 9 “Industry Innovation and Infrastructure” as well as SDG 13 “Climate Action” and SDG 14 “Life Below Water”.

The cooperation has two overall themes and two partner authorities: Maritime Safety with China Maritime Safety Administration (MSA). Green Maritime Technology, Shipbuilding, and Offshore Equipment with Ministry of Industry and Information Technology’s Shipbuilding Department (MIIT).

The main objectives are to learn and to complement each other’s strengths, form stronger ties between the two countries public authorities, as well as to create a better commercial maritime foundation for private Danish stakeholders in China. All while pursuing the higher purpose of the 4 SDGs.

China is as Denmark a proud seafaring nation and with the 13th Five Year Plan and The Belt & Road Initiative, as well as the ambitions expressed in Made in China 2025, maritime affairs plays an ever-increasing part of China’s transformation plans. Latter includes a focus on environmental issues and reducing CO2 and SOx emissions are high on the agenda. With the increase in sea-going transport of both cargo and passengers in Chinese waters, safety at sea is critical.

Key activities in 2018
During the year, the cooperation with the Chinese partner authorities has been extended.

The training and relationship building with China MSA have continued with two Port State Control workshops in Shanghai and Tianjin. China MSA hosted a workshop for knowledge sharing on Same Risk Area for Ballast Water Management in Qingdao.

As a follow up to the Maritime Accident Prevention seminar late 2017, and following two vessels collision in January 2018, China Maritime Safety Administration took the initiative to request a further Accidents Prevention seminar in Denmark, which took place in October 2018.

A workshop was held on e-navigation and data exchange with China MSA in June in Beijing, which was very useful regarding exploring new areas of cooperation.

In May, a seminar was held on Ballast Water Management Systems with high-level attendance by MIIT, and with the Deputy-Director General from DMA participating alongside a delegation from the Danish private sector.

Main achievements and lessons learned in 2018
The SSC model appears to have worked very successfully and both China MSA and MIIT have on several occasions expressed appreciation towards the Danish proactive attitude implementing formal agreements into concrete work plans. The relations between China and Denmark were at the Implementation Meeting under the EU-China Maritime Transport Agreement in July 2018 mentioned by China as the prime example of how to implement bilateral agreements.

The Chinese partners have been very active at the workshops and planning future events with an overall interest in learning from Denmark. As the cooperation matures, there will be more possibilities for Danish private sector products and solutions.

Status: Full SSC project under implementation.
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