Recommendation from the EMH congress in Seixal
September 23-24, 2010

The attendance in Seixal was greater than at earlier congresses and we had representatives from 20 countries.

The theme of the congress was:

Are we able to hand over our maritime heritage to future generations?

In order to achieve this EMH should give priority in the coming years to:

- Encourage all initiatives to include young people „to get onboard“ and to learn the history, the intangibles and skills of our maritime heritage.
- Stimulate the exchange of best practices between the EMH membership in general and of how young people are engaged especially.
- Sell ourselves better to „political Europe“ and the general public and in particular to young people.
- Gain better recognition of the value added by our maritime heritage activities to environment, economy and education and obtain a larger economic share.
- Change the mindset of regulators so that safety, of course must be given priority, but with a reminder that safety can be obtained in different ways. It will be important to stress that the maritime heritage should be maintained and not threatened.
- Enhance the knowledge and understanding of the various interpretations and classifications of our maritime fleet and promote discussion between our members without specifying a definite EMH wording.
- Make sure that the traditional fleet is included in the minds of UNESCO, EU policy makers and IMO.
- Include the traditional fleet in DG MARE’s European Atlas of the Seas.

Seixal, September 24, 2010