

## **SHORT SEA SHIPPING DAYS 2019 – 13<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2019 – YACHT CLUB**

Session 1 – Prospects and Challenges of EU SSS

Speaker : Vasileios Logothetis – HCS Executive Committee member

Topic : New regulation and environmental challenges in the MED

Back in 1979 Greek seafarers and ship owners founded HELMEPA , the Hellenic Marine Environment Association, a pioneering voluntary organization that aimed to safeguard the seas from ship- generated pollution. The example of HELMEPA was followed by other maritime nations thus the principal aim to promote an environmental consciousness and the spirit of safety towards achieving quality shipping, was spread around.

Since 1954 , IMO Conventions, Regulations and Declarations have occurred the most important of which was MARPOL 73/78. Measures to battle climatic change is the top issue in our days . The shipping community is a fore runner in this effort despite the fact that shipping is the less pollutant means of transportation. Shipping is committed in fulfilling the goals set for the reduction of Green House Gases and the preservation of the marine environment.

This involves enormous investments in scrubbers, ballast water management systems, low sulfur marine fuels, or retrofitting of engines for dual fuel etc.

Improved designs of ships, the use of LNG on some trades, slow speeds and other measures and technologies are being examined. Greek shipping both at home waters, in short sea trades and internationally are promptly adapting the IMO Regulations although there are serious reservations and concerns.

The recent decision