



PRESS RELEASE ON THE CIANAM BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING 2021

It was successfully held by video conference a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Cámara Interamericana de Asociaciones Nacionales de Agentes Marítimos (CIANAM).



With the participation of six of the seven members of the Board of Directors of the Cámara Interamericana de Asociaciones Nacionales de Agentes Marítimos (CIANAM), belonging to the same number of National Associations that make up this regional organization and the Secretariat, on June 28th, 2021 it was held a second meeting by video conference within the scope of the By-laws, which have always foreseen this possibility.

CIANAM was created as a regional organization in 2003, it has its permanent headquarters in the Oriental Republic of Uruguay and it is integrated by the Associations of Ship Agents from Argentina; Brazil; Chile; Costa Rica; Ecuador; United States of America; Mexico; Panama; Paraguay; Peru and Uruguay. The purposes of CIANAM are to promote, in harmony with the

highest inter-American goals, the rights and responsibilities of Ship Agents, to support the activity for the benefit of the sector and to contribute to the proper operation of shipping transport and logistics services within the region, as an essential link of international maritime trade and port activity in general.

Given the ongoing international health situation caused by the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19), with periods of greater aggravation in many countries since it has started, during the meeting there was a broad analysis of the most appropriate procedures to carry out the activities of this organization, focused on preventing that the situation caused by the Pandemic shall negatively affect the goals and regularity set, so as not to interrupt strengthening the exchange and standardization of activities that support the operation of vessels in the region, for the benefit of the global shipping transport and the interests of each State, considering that it is an essential activity that has allowed keeping the essential flow of goods worldwide, indispensable for the subsistence of people since the movement of goods is performed by water in about 90% of the total volume.

In this context, the contribution that members make to this Cámara, the economic effort that each one makes to sustain it, and the minimum expenses by not being able to hold meetings in-person since the advent of the Pandemic were taken into account, considering the need to promote the meetings of the members by video conference and other actions that shall enable the proper compliance with the By-laws and the promotion of remote activities that shall allow the proper functioning of the Cámara, until it shall be possible to resume the usual practices.

Therefore, it shall be highlighted the responsibilities and contributions of ship agents for the successful development of all the activities related to the operation of vessels within the different ports of the region, the essential role that they fulfill and the responsibilities they shall assume and that they cannot be replaced by third parties or intermediaries that shall not be duly joining the register and authorization systems that regulate their activity within different States, acquiring special relevance the contributions they shall make in the port/vessel interface so that water transport shall continue operating as normally and effectively as possible before the extraordinary situation created worldwide by the Pandemic.