



Outcomes

7th SIMA Workshop with Ship Operators

2 June 2026

Outcomes

At the 7th
Workshop,
Ship
Operators
and
Stakeholders:

Recognised the contribution of domestic shipping operators and private maritime operators in Solomon Islands economy and inter-island connectivity.

Supported reviving traditional shipbuilding and further development of shipbuilding in Solomon Islands.

Requested government and development partners to support maritime training and mobility of seafarers, and training in naval architecture by supporting the Solomon Islands Maritime College.

Requested the government to consider the financial hardship experienced by ship operators with the fuel price increase and to provide dedicated support.

Noted the Small Craft Safety and Operation Guidelines currently being piloted in the Western Province before implementation across all provinces.

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Operators
and
Stakeholders:

Recognised maritime financing and investment as a national development priority, and maritime workforce development and fleet replacement and as immediate investment priorities to improve inter-island connectivity and decarbonisation; new technologies should be considered such as electric vessels, hybrid-vessel (wind assisted, alternative fuels, etc.).

Requested Government to consider coordinated maritime financing and investment mechanisms to support priorities taking into account the issues faced by ship operators to access financing from financial institutions and the need to engage with development partners, financial institutions and insurance companies.

Agreed to proceed with consultation for making of the SIMA (STCW Convention) Maritime Order by end of 2026 to comply with the STCW Convention.

Recalled the need to ensure protection and rights of passengers and seafarers as required by the Shipping Act 1998 and to consider a marine insurance regime covering operation of ships and carriage of passengers and seafarer.

Outcomes

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Operators
and
Stakeholders:

Supported the development of the National Action Plan on Preventing Marine Litter for launch end of 2026.

Recognize that preventing marine litter requires action on both land-based and ship-sourced pollution.

Called on government agencies, development partners, communities, and maritime operators to work together to reduce marine litter and pollution.

Welcomed the SIMA-MFMR Memorandum of Understanding and commitments to safety and operation of fishing vessels in Solomon Islands waters and preventing marine litter from ships and fishing activities.

Recognised the importance of ship stability and loadline for safety of passenger and crew, and to ensure initial review of stability and loadline is conducted before purchasing a ship.

Requested the government to incorporate maritime development in the Solomon Islands government policies and budget.



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