Føroyar skriva søgu í sjóvinnu-felagsskapinum IMO

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Nú seinnapartin vóru Føroyar við til at skriva søgu í altjóða sjóvinnufelagsskapinum, IMO (International Maritime Organisation) á aðalfundinum í London. Tað var tá Johan Dahl, landsstýrismaður í sjóvinnumálum sum fyrsti føroyski ráðharri nakrantíð helt røðu á hesum fyri altjóða sjóvinnu so týðandi stovni undir ST.

Á fundinum vóru umboð fyri 170 tjóðir, teirra millum Føroyar, sum vórðu umboðaðar av landsstýrismanninum Johan Dahl, føroyska sendiharrranum í Bretlandi, Jóannes V. Hansen og Majbritt Pauladóttir, deildarstjóra í Sjóvinnustýrinum.

IMO, sum er ein av teimum stóru og mest týðandi stovnunum undir ST, tekur sær av sjóvinnumálum kring allan knøttin, og er eitt av høvuðsevnunum á fundinum trygdin á havinum í Arktis, nú ísurin bráðnar og skapar nýggjar siglingarleiðir.

Føroyar fingu atlimaskap í IMO fyri 11 árum síðani. Harumframt hava Hong Kong og Macao atlimaskap. Hesar tjóðir sótu allar við sama borðið í risastóru fundarhøllini hjá IMO í London seinnapartin.

Røðan hjá Johan Dahl, sum var tann seinasta á ársfundinum, varð dúgliga fagnað og fekk hann eisini fleiri herðaklapp aftaná frá ymsum londum.

Í røðu síni vísti Johan Dahl á støðu Føroya mitt í Atlantshavi og hvussu umráðandi tað er fyri eina siglandi tjóð, ið livir av havsins tilfeingi, at trygd og umhvørvisvernd eru í hásæti. Hvussu týðandi tað er at hava og virða altjóða reglur, sum eru galdandi umborð á skipum og í havumhvørvinum.

Landsstýrismaðurin segði, at nú tá føroyingar sum tjóð nærum burturav liva av tí, sum havið gevur, og staðfesta, at altjóða ferðslan økist, so er avgerandi at hava altjóða reglur fyri økini kring oyggjarnar. Hann skjeyt upp at skipa siglingarsonur í havøkjunum rundan um Føroyar fyri at útihýsa vandasigling og seta umhvørvið í váða.

Stóru evnið á ársfundinum var eitt nú ratifikation av ballastvatn- konventiónini, og hesi beyð føroyska umboðið eisini vælkomið.

Landsstýrismaðurin legði eisini stóran dent á, at føroyskir myndugleikar og landsstýrið ásanna týdningin av tí arbeiði, sum IMO tekur sær av og stendur fyri. Hann fegnaðist eisini um sjálvur at hava fingið ta privilegium sum fyrsti føroyingur nakrantíð at standa á pallinum í hesum háttvirda og týdningarmikla forum.

Johan Dahl nýtti eisini høvi í røðu síni at vísa samkenslu við øllum teimum, sum vórðu rakt av ódnini í Filipsoyggjunum.

Niðanfyri røðan Johan Dahl helt:

Mr President, Secretary General, Your Excellencies, delegates, Ladies and gentlemen,

Firstly, on behalf of my country, I would like to express our condolances and our sincere sympathy to the delegation to the Philippines because of the catastrophy in the country, due to the typhoon Haiyjan.

It is an honour and a privilege to be addressing this 28th IMO Assembly on behalf of the Faroes. This is also the very first time we have the privilege since we became associate members in 2003.

A self-governing country within the Danish Realm, our far flung, near-Arctic archipelago has been defined by the surrounding ocean characterised by the gentle currents of the Golf Stream caressing its shores.

The riches in our ocean and the fishing rights in foreign waters through long-standing agreements with neighbouring states and others farther afield have brought growth and prosperity to our society.

In addition to our fisheries nature continues to give us our livelihood with new industries emerging, such as a fast growing aquaculture sector, adventure and gourmet tourism as well as oil and gas exploration; with new technology overcoming the challenges represented by the heavy layer of basalt in the area.

The preservation of the clean currents from the Atlantic Ocean through our fjords and straits is paramount to us. Our fish farms are a true success story with significant contribution towards our economy. Therefore, fish farmers and politicians do take a common interest in the preservation of the sea around us. The importance of a Ballast Water Convention ratified by the surrounding countries is of obvious importance.

Increasingly, factors such as clean water, fresh air and a clean ocean become vital to the new environmentally conscious tourist. Holding about 8 – 10 degrees all year round, the conditions in our surrounding waters are renowned for the abundance of seafood that they offer. To this most demanding clientele of new tourists, Faroese chefs, holding a rising star with international food reporters, now prepare the most extravagant meals from local produce: fresh fish, crayfish, shellfish, seaweed plants and the like. Our products are recognized amongst chefs and served in world-class restaurant around the globe.

Mr. President, Secretary-General,

From this perspective the increasing traffic through our waters and the likelihood of an oil and gas industry represent a sizeable challenge to our society. Our responsibility for the near coastal waters is indisputable. And with our neighbours we share the responsibility for a vast area so rich in resources and vulnerable to the threat of pollution.

For some years now Faroese ports have experienced an increase in the number of large passenger ships calling Faroese ports. Visitors interested in the bliss of our Northern environment come to experience the wildlife of the ocean, the seabirds in our steep cliffs and the serene near-artic scenery that turns lavishly green during the intense summer months.

Additionally, with proliferating activities further north of our latitude, we see a general increase in Faroese waters of northbound ships passing by, ranging from small dry cargo ships to large oil and gas tankers. With the expected opening of the North Western Passage it is anticipated that this traffic will only continue and at a much larger scale in a very short space of time.

Hence, the Faroese Maritime Authority is following the negotiations in the Maritime Safety Committee on the forthcoming Polar Code closely. The government of the Faroes appreciate this very important work of the Arctic Committee. We are confident that with

their dedicated efforts, together with other parties involved, this sea area will have the Code it deserves before too long, in which the long-term aim is to preserve a clean ocean and therefore the protection of its life.

Mr. President, Secretary-General,

Faroese legislation is in full compliance with MARPOL and its six Annexes. However we are considering taking it a step further in the preservation of our surrounding waters. The most recent discussions at home have included the possibility of declaring Faroese near coastal waters Special Area, Particular Sensitive Sea Area1 or other under MARPOL, and introducing mandatory reporting routines and traffic separation schemes in order to ensure protection of the riches surrounding us. Hence, the Faroes welcome the ratification of the Ballast Water Management convention.

Mr. President, Secretary General,

The Faroese Government has great respect for the important work that is done here at the International Maritime Organisation. We hope and expect a successful Assembly meeting.

Myndir

Johan Dahl heldur røðu á IMO ársfundinum.

Majbritt Pauladóttir, deildarstjóri í Sjóvinnustýrinum fylgdi øllum ársfundinum.

Føroyar vórðu væl umboðaðar á aðalfundinum hjá IMO við trimum fólkum frá sendistovuni, umboði fyri Sjóvinnustýrið og so landsstýrismanninum.

Føroyar høvdu sæti saman við Hong Kong, Macao, sum eisini eru atlimalond og so Zimbabve.