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# samudra

**ISSUE**  
N° 04  
**2022**

A quarterly publication of the Singapore Organisation of Seamen and Seacare Co-operative Limited

## **Upskilling & transitioning seafarers into green shipping**

**Seacare Drop-In Centre for International Seafarers relaunched after refurbishment**

inside:

### **SEACARE FOCUS**

Seacare Co-op holds in-person AGM, reappoints board members for new term

NTUC FairPrice vouchers for Seacare Ordinary Members



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# Maritime News On The Go



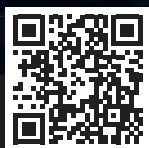
**SAMUDRA**, a digital publication of the Singapore Organisation of Seamen (SOS), featuring news and events that matter to seafarers and the international maritime community.



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# Study Grant Award, Education Assistance presentation & family outing

SOS held a joint 'Study Grant Award, Education Assistance presentation & family outing' at the Singapore Zoo in Mandai on Oct 1, 2022, an event participated by 106 members and their families.

**A KEY COMPONENT OF THE SOS BENEFITS AND WELFARE SCHEME**, the Study Grant and Education Assistance Fund help members defray their children's education expenses and reward them for their academic progress. The presentation was held in conjunction with the SOS Family Outing to promote familial bonding.

This year, 54 Study Grant and 23 Education Assistance Fund awards were disbursed







to recipients across the Primary, Secondary, ITE, Pre-University/ Diploma and University categories. The awards were co-funded by NTUC U Care Education Co-Funding Scheme.

As part of the programme, the Mandai Wildlife Group gave a fascinating talk about conservation, sustainability



and ongoing rejuvenation projects that facilitate wildlife connectivity in Singapore.

The talk, funded by LIFT-UP Initiative (Enhanced), fostered family

fun and appreciation for animals as everyone tried to identify the common and rare species in our Garden City.

Participants also enjoyed stage games and lucky draws before setting off on their zoo exploration and outdoor fun. **S**



## WORLD MARITIME DAY CELEBRATION & HYDROPONICS WORKSHOP



SOS held a hydroponics workshop cum World Maritime Day celebration for members on Sep 24.

A farming specialist taught members to plant Bak Choy, a common vegetable in rooftop farming,



using simple planting kits. Members also learned different ways to grow home-produced vegetables. The workshop was followed by an evening World Maritime Day celebration, where seafarers caught up

with ex-crewmates and friends over performances, stage games and live band.





# NETWORKING GOLF FOR MARITIME TRIPARTITE PARTNERS

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## SOS HOSTED A NETWORKING GOLF TOURNAMENT FOR

maritime tripartite partners and associates on Oct 11, an event at Orchid Country Club that saw like-minded professionals share ideas and opportunities while



sharpening their skills on the greens.

After their games, the 105 golfers enjoyed an evening of stage games and performances. The winner and runner-ups of the tournament were announced and presented with prizes. A round of lucky draws concluded the networking session, with new friendships forged and camaraderie strengthened.







## CELEBRATING DEEPAVALI

### SOS MEMBERS AND THEIR SPOUSES

celebrated a dazzling Festival of Light extravaganza on Nov 5 under vibrant decors and dazzling lights at Club@52 lounge.

The 120-strong guests immersed themselves

in rounds of flavourful Indian treats and an array of saccharine desserts. They soaked themselves in fun and laughter from stage games and Bollywood hits. Many happily showcased their nifty dance moves



and struck gram-worthy poses. It was a fun and memorable gathering for our members.



## ROLLING GOOD TIMES WITH TOMBOLA NIGHT

**SOS MEMBERS CELEBRATED A NIGHT OF FUN**, laughter and excitement with Tombola, a game-of-chance popular among seafarers, at Members Night-Tombola Night on Dec 3.

Tombola, an Italian word for 'tomb' or 'dice-box', is a century-old game where players match numbers on their tickets with random



numbers rolled out from a tombola drum. Participants with the winning numbers get to claim prizes.

In addition to Tombola, live performances, stage games and lucky draws kept the celebration going. Each member also received an eco-friendly tote bag designed by SOS, which they can use as a green, sustainable replacement for plastic bags in grocery shopping.







# SMARTPHONE TRAINING FOR MEMBERS

**SOS HELD A  
SMARTPHONE  
TRAINING  
WORKSHOP** for  
members with  
intermediate  
smartphone  
knowledge as part of  
its continuous efforts to  
help members to  
embrace digitalisation.



The full-day workshop on Dec 17 saw members learn different apps to connect and communicate. It also taught them to browse and purchase on popular e-commerce platforms. Participants thoroughly enjoyed the training. [S](#)



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# SNIMI conducts SQRT for 77 trainees

**THE SINGAPORE (NANTONG)  
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME INSTITUTE  
(SNIMI)** in Nantong, China conducted  
four batches of the Seacare Quality  
Ratings Training (SQRT) from  
Aug to Nov 2022.

The training  
saw 77 trainees  
undergo four  
weeks of intensive  
Maritime English



training to boost their English  
proficiency to prepare them  
to work in multi-nationality  
crew vessels.

The trainees, both males and  
females in their twenties, also studied  
various maritime subjects, such as the  
Maritime Labour Convention (MLC 2006)  
and watch-keeping duties. [S](#)





# Care & Share workplan seminar

THE CARE & SHARE COMMITTEE WORKPLAN SEMINAR IN HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM, proposed a new Study Assistance Scheme to be launched by early 2023 and ideas to raise the brand awareness of U Care Fund beyond the Labour Movement.

As part of the programme, participants visited the Vietnam-Singapore Industrial Park, a joint venture between both countries, which has created over 174,000 jobs in the industrial service sector, supporting the rise of Vietnam's middle class.



Participants gained insights into Vietnam's economic and investment potential; they also strengthened the camaraderie among Care & Share Committee members. [S](#)

# Supporting women's career and work-life balance



THE NTUC WOMEN'S COMMITTEE Annual Seminar on Sep 22 presented and discussed the support for back-to-work programmes for women, progressive workplaces with flexible work arrangements, and work-life

harmony practices. SOS representative Sharon Li was among the participants at the seminar, which also comprised team bonding activities and a fireside chat with key committee members. [S](#)







SNIMI GM  
Terence Zhao  
giving his  
opening speech



# SNIMI commemorates 11<sup>th</sup> milestone with hybrid event and International Maritime Forum

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The Singapore (Nantong) International Maritime Institute (SNIMI), established by Jiangsu Shipping College, Singhai Marine Services and the Singapore Organisation of Seamen (SOS), celebrated its 11th Anniversary on Nov 11, 2022.

**THE HYBRID CELEBRATION, TELECASTED LIVE FROM SNIMI'S CAMPUS**, was attended in-person and virtually by 250 participants, including guests from the China Maritime Safety Administration (MSA), the Maritime Port Authority of Singapore (MPA), maritime institutes and international shipping companies.

In his opening speech, SNIMI GM Terence Zhao shared SNIMI's training capabilities have expanded and advanced over the past decade, and it is capable of providing a full spectrum of

high-quality maritime training for shipping companies and seafarers. Mr Zhao told the audience that SNIMI would enrich and enhance its virtual training capabilities to equip seafarers with the competencies for smart and green shipping.

Other key speakers at the event were Mr Shi Zhu Bin, president of Jiangsu Shipping College; Mr Wang Xiu Feng, deputy director of Jiangsu Maritime Safety Administration; Mr Kam Soon Huat, president of SOS and Mr Kenneth Lim, assistant chief executive (Industry & Transformation) of MPA.

In his speech, Mr Kam praised SNIMI for its impressive accolades and innovative training approaches. Mr Kam said seafarers would need different skill sets to run the greener and smarter



Mr Shi Zhu Bin,  
president of  
Jiangsu  
Shipping College





ships; hence SNIMI plays a vital role in accelerating seafarers' skills mastery to run these ships effectively.

Fellow key speaker Mr Lim also applauded SNIMI's high standard of training, which meets industry requirements and standards; he looked forward to seeing more innovative programmes to train the new generation of seafarers to meet the evolving needs of the industry.

The anniversary celebration was held in conjunction with the International Maritime Forum, themed "The Future of Maritime Education and Training in the post-Covid arena."



**Mr Kam Soon Huat (right), president of SOS and Mr Kenneth Lim (above), assistant chief executive (Industry & Transformation) of MPA were among the key speakers at the event**



The forum invited experts from maritime institutes and shipping companies to discuss technologies to facilitate remote and virtual-based training, including virtual reality, 3D modelling, cloud simulators and augmented reality.

The forum noted that maritime training in the future would likely combine physical and virtual training modes, with training effectiveness as the key consideration, balanced by the associated cost involved. **S**

# SOS marks MUA's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary with global maritime community

**SOS WAS AMONG TRANSPORT AND MARITIME WORKERS' UNIONS** that arrived at Sydney Harbour on Oct 5 to mark the Maritime Union of Australia's (MUA) 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Representing SOS, Vice President Mohamad Abu Bakar presented a commemorative plaque to MUA National Secretary Paddy Crumlin at the gala dinner celebration.



**(Right): Representing SOS, Vice President Mohamad Abu Bakar presented a commemorative plaque to MUA National Secretary Paddy Crumlin at the gala dinner celebration; and meeting Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese (above)**



Brother Mohamad praised MUA for contributing to Australia's social, political, community and industrial fronts, adding that the strong solidarity between SOS and MUA has fortified their undertakings to advance the livelihood of seafarers in the region.

Also at the event were Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and 600 guests and delegates from across the globe. **S**




# Celebrating the triumphs and challenges of transport workers

The ITF Photography prize 2022 is an annual contest honouring the millions of transport workers who keep the world moving.

**IT IS ALSO ITF'S FIRST-EVER PHOTOGRAPHY** competition celebrating the triumphs and challenges of being a transport worker in every sector, industry and supply chain.

After six months of submissions, ITF received hundreds of amazing photos from transport workers worldwide.

The ITF said it was heart-warming to see colleagues' lives captured in such an earnest and down-to-earth way.

For more information on the ITF Photography Prize, visit [www.itfglobal.org/en/photoprize](http://www.itfglobal.org/en/photoprize) 

*Photo source:*  
ITF Photography Prize 2022



**Young specialists of the electric locomotive depot**  
by YURII VERESCHAKA



**A woman in action**  
by ISRAEL C GARBO



**Igualdad (Equality)**  
by JULIAN RAMIREZ

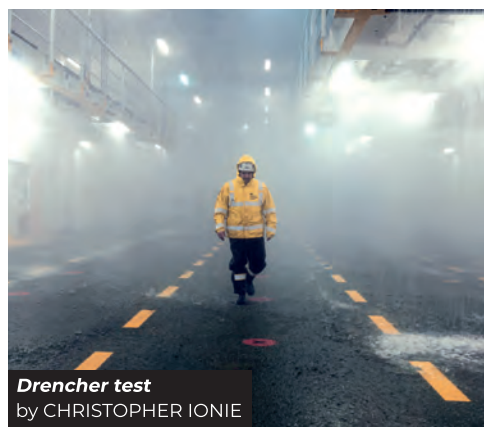




*К рейсу готов (Ready for the flight)*  
by МАРИЯ



*Christmas Feeling*  
by ALDRIN M. ULEP



*Drencher test*  
by CHRISTOPHER IONIE



*Rope of hope*  
by JUNE D FAMUR



*Empowering feeling working  
as a longshore*  
by VIRIDIANA GÓMEZ





# World Maritime Theme 2023: ‘MARPOL at 50 – Our commitment goes on’

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‘MARPOL at 50 – Our commitment goes on’ is the International Maritime Organization’s World Maritime Theme for 2023, leading to its celebration on Sep 28.

## REFLECTING IMO’S HISTORY AND COMMITMENT

to protecting the environment from the impact of shipping, the theme also spotlights the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), covering the prevention of contamination by ships’ operations or accidents.

IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim said: “Our work to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions is critical, and – given the urgency of the climate crisis – we must act now to strengthen our ambitions on this matter.

“We must also tackle other issues, including protecting biodiversity, biofouling, the transfer of invasive species, and plastic and noise pollution. Protecting the marine environment requires shared action and I look forward to what the next 50 years will bring,” he added.

The theme is linked to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

These goals include affordable and clean energy (SDG 7); industry, innovation and infrastructure (SDG 9); climate action and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources (SDGs 13 and 14); and the importance of partnerships and implementation to achieve these goals (SDG 17).

MARPOL today covers a range of marine pollution, such as sewage and garbage, air pollution, and the regulation of energy efficiency.

Evolving over the years, the convention enforced limits on sulphur oxide emissions from ships in 2020. It also adopted measures to boost ships’ energy efficiency and cut carbon intensity in 2021. **S**

# Mandatory for ships to report carbon intensity, energy efficiency starting Jan 1, 2023


All ships must calculate and report their Energy Efficiency Ship Index (EEXI) data to determine their energy efficiency, operational carbon intensity indicator (CII) and CII rating starting Jan 1, 2023.

**THE REGULATION KICKED IN AFTER** amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) Annex VI entered into force on Nov 1, 2022.

The amendments require ships to boost their energy efficiency in the short term – pushing global shipping to cut 40 per cent of its greenhouse gas emissions and carbon intensity by 2030.

IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim said the greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction measures, adopted in 2021, form a comprehensive set of amendments to MARPOL Annex VI, paving the way for IMO's future mid-term GHG reduction measures.

IMO said member states are revising the IMO Initial GHG Strategy for adoption in mid-2023. Plans are also underway to develop mid-term measures - including incentivising the switching from fossil fuels to low- and zero-carbon fuels - to decarbonise global shipping by the mid-century.

"We are, in tandem, working to support member states in their implementation of measures and to ensure that no one is left behind in this transition towards a decarbonised future for shipping," said Mr Lim. 







# Decarbonisation action plan to upskill and transition seafarers into green shipping

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A 10-point action plan was launched at COP27 as new research cautions that 800,000 seafarers will need carbon upskilling by the mid-2030s.

**THE MARITIME JUST TRANSITION TASK FORCE**, comprising UN organisations, shipowners and unions, has launched a 'shipping action plan' at the COP 27 climate conference in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, in November 2022.

The action plan, forming part of a white paper titled: 'Mapping a Maritime Just Transition for Seafarers', aims to upskill seafarers to meet shipping's decarbonisation goals while putting the seafaring workforce at the heart of the solution.

The initiative comes after new research cautions that as many as 800,000 seafarers

will need additional training by the mid-2030s as shipping transitions to alternative fuels and technologies, such as hydrogen, biofuels and batteries.

Shipping, generating three per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions, aims to transition to a net zero emission by 2050 in a concerted international effort to limit global warming to 1.5°C or lower.

The massive undertaking would require businesses, including shipping, to educate the workers about the transition and set up training infrastructures to upskill and empower workers, 'leaving no one behind'.



The good news is that seafarers are prepared and willing to be part of this transition. But crew want to know that the fuels they're handling are indeed safe and that we as an industry have the training pathways established to upgrade their skills.

**Stephen Cotton**  
ITF General Secretary

Navigating shipping towards net zero, the 10-point shipping action plan made recommendations for industry, governments, seafarers unions, and academia, including training providers under scenarios with varying decarbonisation speed and progress.

These recommendations include: Strengthening global training standards, ensuring a health-and-safety-first approach, and establishing advisory national maritime skills councils.

"The good news is that seafarers are prepared and willing to be part of this transition," said ITF General Secretary Stephen Cotton.

"But crew want to know that the fuels they're handling are indeed safe and that we as an industry have the training pathways established to upgrade their skills," he added.

### **Factors hindering the Maritime Just Transition**

The research pointed out the lack of clarity on the viability and uptake of alternative fuel options, among issues which could hinder the transition. In addition, it highlighted that regulatory and financing uncertainties could impede the upskilling of seafarers.

The report proposed stakeholders kickstart seafarers' training by investing in and enhancing maritime training establishments with facilities and competent trainers.

"There is an urgent need to establish the infrastructure and training required to prepare our seafaring workforce, both in developed and developing countries, to help meet our decarbonisation objectives," said ICS Secretary General Guy Platten.


"This should be done as of today, so they are ready and able to meet the challenges that new green fuels and propulsion technologies will pose and mitigate any potential health and safety risks for ships, communities, the environment and seafarers themselves."

### **SOS studies transition impact on seafarers**

Separately, SOS has conducted small-scale surveys to assess seafarers' awareness of the transition and their receptiveness to re-training and upskilling. Its survey findings and recommendations were largely similar to the proposal put forth by the Maritime Just Transition Task Force.

The surveys, with limited sample size, noted that while the maritime decarbonisation concept is not new to seafarers, most are unfamiliar with the subject and entailing issues, such as the impacts of alternative fuels on their health, livelihood and the environment.

Seafarers agreed that it is important to have a better understanding of the pathways, action plans and implications for the industry to transition towards decarbonisation effectively.

On the action plan, Platten added: "This is an opportunity for all so that no one is left behind. Shipping cannot decarbonise without its workers, and the 10-point action plan developed by the Task Force maps out a pathway for how this can be achieved as our industry continues to navigate towards a decarbonised future." 



# 10-point Action Plan to Achieve a Just Transition for Seafarers

Fundamental just transition principles



## Global labour standards

Ensure that Just Transition planning, as part of wider decarbonization plans in the maritime industry, is aligned with globally established labor standards under the Maritime Labour Convention, as amended (MLC, 2006), underpinned by social dialogue and stakeholder engagement



## Gender and diversity

Champion 'Diversity, Equity and Inclusion' on board ships as a driver for better performance and risk management in the transition and beyond



## Health and safety

Ensure a health and safety-first approach to de-risk shipping's green transition with fit-for-purpose training and familiarization onboard ships



## Establish consensus to unlock training

To unlock the investments needed to equip the maritime workforce with essential skills necessary for a decarbonized shipping industry, urgently establish global consensus on an ambitious decarbonization goal for shipping, that is more explicitly aligned with the 1.5°C temperature goal of the Paris Agreement. This will provide the certainty needed to stimulate the uptake of alternative fuels and clean energy technologies for shipping

Recruitment and attrition



## Support seafarer career pathways

Support seafaring careers both at sea and ashore, by establishing mobility frameworks for seafarers to develop transferable skills over their time on board, preparing them for a career ashore, beyond seafaring



## Address attrition and recruitment

Take active steps to address seafarer attrition, which represents a significant challenge to attract and retain seafarers (including women) for shipping's green transition

Skills and training



## Investing in skills

Ensure decarbonization plans, including spending and investment, are aligned with the globally established ILO just transition guidelines, taking full account of the maritime industry's growing need for skills to support its green transition



## Strengthening global training standards

Strengthen global training standards for seafarers, in the ongoing comprehensive review of the IMO STCW Convention and Code, identifying areas for revision. This includes replacing or updating obsolete competencies and knowledge, understanding and proficiency (KUP) in line with shipping's digitalization evolution and decarbonization trajectory



## Delivering fair training

Deliver equitable training models for all seafarers to keep up with technological advances needed to support the industry's decarbonization and avoid a widening skills and training gap, which disadvantages seafarers, in particular from developing countries, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs)



## Monitoring skills

Develop national maritime skills councils, as advisory bodies, to complement the STCW training framework, including giving special attention to the additional skills that the maritime workforce will need to handle alternative fuels

16°17'

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# ITF evaluates MLC compliance in seafarers' rights inspection

The ITF and Seafarers' Rights International conducted a Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) on the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 as amended (MLC), in November 2022.

**THE CIC AIMED TO OBTAIN FIRST-HAND INFORMATION** from ship inspections on how effectively the MLC is implemented and enforced. It also allowed ITF coordinators, inspectors and contacts to ensure visiting ships comply with regulations on safety, pollution prevention and seafarers living and working conditions.

In Singapore, SOS Vice President Mohamad Abu Bakar and IROs Eugene Guo and Alan Kor boarded vessels to conduct their inspections. They also completed questionnaires – from seafarers' employment agreements to mental health and fatigue issues – and recorded the inspection results for each ship.

The MLC is a global instrument adopted by 150 countries to protect seafarers' rights and working and living conditions on board vessels. **S**



## DO YOU KNOW YOUR RIGHTS?

As a seafarer you have rights - employment rights, legal rights, trade union rights and human rights. The best way to ensure that your rights are protected is to join a union. In this issue, we share the obligations of crew agencies offering recruitment services for seafarers.

In countries where the MLC, 2006 has been ratified, crewing or manning agencies offering recruitment services **MUST NOT** charge you for finding you work.

The cost of visas **MUST** be paid for by the shipowner.

**How to tell if a crewing agent is reliable?**

- 1 Keep an **up-to-date register** of all their seafarer placements
- 2 Keep **up-to-date lists of ships and company contact details** where their seafarers are placed
- 3 **Inform you of your rights and duties** under an employment agreement and give you enough time to examine it before you sign up

**Crewing agents should also:**

- 4 **Employ staff with knowledge** of the maritime industry
- 5 **Respect your right to privacy and protect confidentiality**
- 6 **Respond promptly and sympathetically** to requests for information and advice from your family while you're at sea – at no cost to you or your family

**SCAN HERE FOR THE FULL CHECKLIST:**







# SOS brings festive cheer to seafarers during Christmas

18°19

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Celebrating Christmas with seafarers onboard and in the port is an annual tradition of SOS until the pandemic struck more than two years ago, making it difficult for our IROs to visit ships.


**TO BRING A TOUCH OF FESTIVE CHEER** to seafarers in December 2022, SOS IROs brought along log cakes, snacks and gifts during their ship visits. It is our way of showing support and appreciation for seafarers' hard work and dedication in keeping global trade moving.

Our IROs also used the opportunity to meet with the crew and ensured that their voices were heard and their concerns addressed.

In the same month, SOS organised a mini Christmas party for visiting seafarers at the Seacare Drop-In Centre at Pasir Panjang Terminal. The celebration brought warmth to seafarers away from



home during the festive period. Each received a tote bag specially designed by SOS to propagate environmental awareness and sustainability.

"We are delighted to bring the joy of Christmas to seafarers, their hard work and dedication do not go unnoticed, and SOS is honoured to celebrate this special time of the year with them," said SOS Vice President Mohamad Abu Bakar. 



# Seacare Drop-In Centre relaunched after refurbishment

The Seacare Drop-In Centre for International Seafarers at Pasir Panjang Terminal is an initiative to provide seafarers with a comfortable setting to recharge when they come ashore.

**SOS HAD OPTIMISED DOWNTIME DURING THE PANDEMIC** to refurbish the centre and launched it in December 2022, adding a touch of sophistication and elegance that supports the well-being of seafarers.

The centre creates a café-like ambience with plush seating, elegant magazine shelves, and the enticing aroma of freshly brewed coffee. It boasts lightning-fast WIFI for seafarers to connect

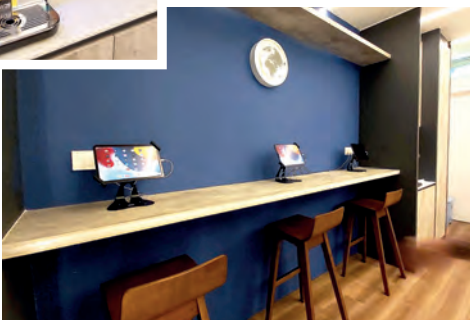
smoothly to friends and loved ones.

It also entertains with a 60-inch smart TV with Netflix and streaming apps for

seafarers to enjoy their favourite blockbusters.

At the woody, counter-height table, visitors can sip hot matcha, enjoy a book or use the outfitted iPads to browse or video call their loved ones.

These features enhance visitors' experience and provide a much-needed respite at the Seacare Drop-In Centre for International Seafarers. **S**







+65 8123 XXXX

5 Missed Call(s)



+65 8123 XXXX

now

Can send me the OTP now? Urgent. Tks

Want your OTP?  
Scam sign.  

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Don't Give!  
Never share your OTP.  
No one needs to know.



scamalert.sg

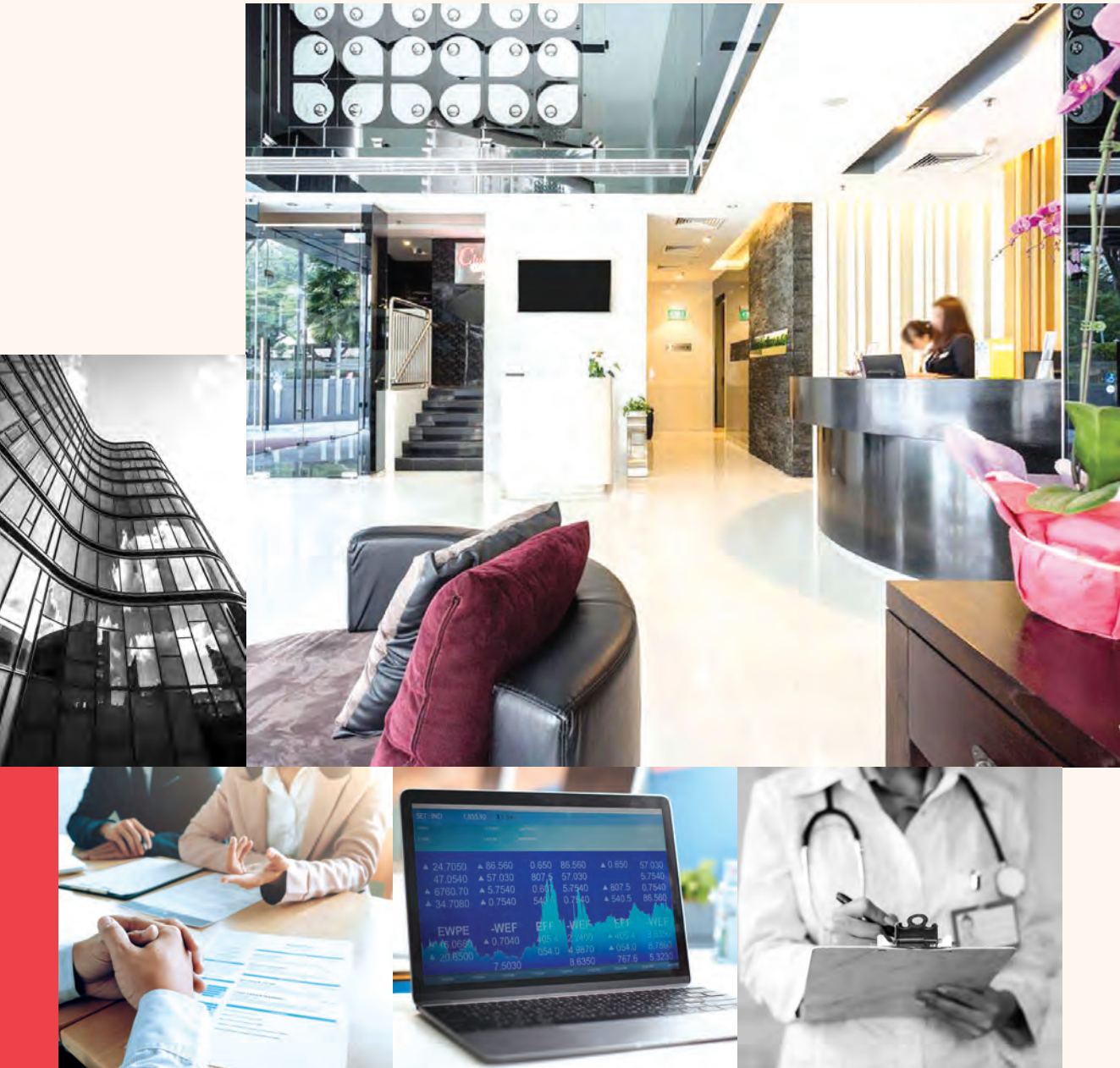
SPOT THE SIGNS. STOP THE CRIMES.



SINGAPORE  
POLICE FORCE  
SAFEGUARDING EVERY DAY



# SEACARE FOCUS



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# Seacare Co-op holds in-person AGM, reappoints board members for new term

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Seacare Co-operative successfully held its in-person Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Oct 26, 2022, after two years of virtual AGMs during the height of the pandemic.

**THE AGM WAS HELD AT CLUB@52, SEACARE BUILDING** and chaired by Seacare Executive Chairman Leow Ching Chuan. Approximately 90 Seacare shareholders and delegates attended the meeting.



At the AGM, members approved Seacare's financial statements and reviewed the co-operative's significant events in the past year, including its community outreach initiatives to support different communities. In addition, members unanimously approved three





key agenda items, including:

The awarding of NTUC FairPrice vouchers to help Ordinary Members defray the rising cost of living (The vouchers can be used to purchase everyday essentials at NTUC FairPrice stores, providing relief to members);

The proposed amendments to the by-laws following amendments to the Co-operative Societies Act and the Co-operative Societies Rules (Ensuring the Co-operative remain in compliance with the legal requirements);

The Re-election of candidates nominated by Founder Member (SOS), Institutional Member (NTUC) and Ordinary Members to the Board for a new term of 3 years (The re-election of qualified candidates ensures the continuation of experienced leadership and good governance within the Co-operative).



The AGM was a valuable opportunity for members to come together and shape the direction of the Co-operative.

It also serves as a reminder of the vital role members play in the governance and success of Seacare Co-operative.

The following officers will serve their new 3-year term in the Seacare Co-operative board. **S**



APPOINTMENT	NAME
Executive Chairman	Mr Leow Ching Chuan
Deputy Chairman	Ms Shena Foo Jee Hwee
Treasurer	Mr Lee Van Chong
Secretary	Mr David Sim Hor Pheng
Director	Mr Steve Tan Peng Hoe
	Mr Kam Soon Huat
	Mr Goh Yeow Tin
	Capt Billy Lee Chee Fong
	Mr Mohamad Bin Abu Bakar



# NTUC FairPrice vouchers for Seacare Ordinary Members


As approved at the Annual General Meeting in October, Seacare Co-operative has begun distributing NTUC FairPrice vouchers to Ordinary Members since November 2022.

**THE VOUCHERS, WHICH CAN BE USED** to purchase everyday essentials at NTUC FairPrice stores island-wide, offer financial assistance to members and help defray their daily expenses.

Members were seen smiling and expressing their gratitude for the financial assistance from Seacare. Some shared how they would immediately use the vouchers to purchase food and household essentials.

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The positive reaction from members was an indication that the initiative was well-received and made a positive impact on their lives. 





# Seacare Properties acquires fourth shophouse in Tampines Singapore

Seacare Properties Pte Ltd acquired a shophouse at 476 Tampines St. 44 in November 2022, the firm's fourth shophouse.

## **LOCATED IN EASTERN SINGAPORE,**

the acquired shophouse forms part of a low-rise retail and residential space; its ground floor is used for commercial activities and its upper floor residential space, has been approved for commercial usage.

The shop lot sits within the vibrant Tampines heartland, boasting supermarkets, convenience stalls and small independent retailers. The area also serves as a lifestyle and commercial hub with hawker centres, banks and essential stores popular with the community.

According to Seacare Properties CEO Lim Chye Teen, the chosen unit offers a decent rental return and is a potentially profitable investment for future price appreciation based on location and convenience. i.e. heavy foot traffic, strong customer base, parking convenience and easy accessibility to public transport.

Shophouses are scarce in Singapore and are considered a unique class of real estate offering an attractive long-term investment. **S**





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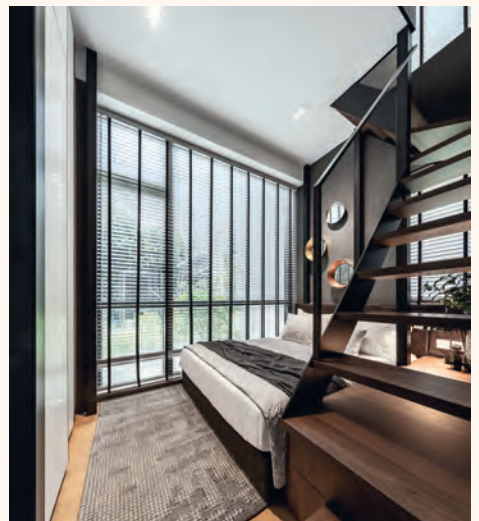
# Sloane Residences units sold out within two months of TOP

Sloane Residences is a freehold development located in District 10, Singapore, developed by TSky Balmoral Pte Ltd, a joint venture between TSky Development Pte Ltd, Progen Industrial Pte Ltd and Seacare Property Development Pte Ltd (SPDPL).

**THE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ON 17 BALMORAL ROAD** obtained a temporary occupation permit (TOP) in November 2022 and saw an uptick in buyer interest, with close to 90 per cent of the units sold in the following month.

All 52 units were sold out by the first weekend of 2023, indicating the strong market demand and the appeal of Sloane Residences among property buyers.

“Despite labour shortages and the challenges Covid-19 presented to property





developers, we successfully navigated these obstacles, and SPDPL completed its first residential project in Singapore,” said Mr Ong Zhiwei, Director of SPDPL.

According to sales figures, 70 per cent of buyers are Singaporeans and permanent residents, drawn to Sloane’s peaceful and convenient location near Orchard Road, Stevens & Newton MRT stations. The proximity to prestigious schools, such as Anglo-Chinese School (Primary) and Singapore Chinese Girls’ School, added to the appeal.


The project features a 3-storey horizontal building

Despite labour shortages and the challenges Covid-19 presented to property developers, we successfully navigated these obstacles, and SPDPL completed its first residential project in Singapore.

**Ong Zhiwei**  
Director of SPDPL

covered in hanging greenery, known as the “Groundscraper”, and a 12-storey vertical tower known as the “Skyscraper.”

The 12-storey condominium also boasts a range of high-end facilities, including a Sky Terrace Pool Deck, a Dining Pavilion, and gorgeous landscaping lawns and gardens. The setting and the exclusivity and privacy make it an ideal choice for retirees, young professionals, and families with young children.

“SPDPL will continue to identify development projects in Singapore and overseas. While we are optimistic about the long-term prospect of real estate development, we still want to exercise prudence and be selective in pursuing opportunities that come our way,” said Mr Ong. 







# Cybersecurity and Crisis Communications highlighted at ACLC 2022

Cybersecurity and Crisis Communications were key topics addressed at the Annual Co-operative Leaders' Conference (ACLC) 2022, themed "Becoming More Resilient" to help Co-operatives futureproof and stay resilient to challenges.

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**WITH CYBERCRIMES PROLIFERATING, A** strong cybersecurity adoption is vital to safeguard organisations from data breaches and the potential consequences of financial losses and reputational damage.

Organisations should also have a crisis communication plan to manage information flow, should a cyberattack occur, to protect reputation and credibility and mitigate negative impacts on stakeholders.

ACLC, organised by the Singapore National Co-operative Federation (SNCF), thus brought together experts, including Mr Tan Yong Seng, Chief Infrastructure & Security Officer of NTUC Enterprise, and



Ms Jessie Ho, Managing Director of Ninemer Communications, to share the industry trends and best practices with participants.

Co-operative leaders at the event further shared their perspectives on cyber security and crisis communications in panel discussions. They also contributed ideas in a Forward Singapore Exercise to envision the future of Singapore and the Singapore Co-operative Movement.

The 3-day event in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah included a visit to Mari Mari Cultural Village to appreciate Sabahan heritage, and a trip to Koperasi Desa Cinta Kobuni Berhad (Homestay Co-op) to learn about home-stay programmes. **S**

**Nine Seacare officers participated in ACLC 2022. They had a fun learning experience and gained a wealth of knowledge and valuable insights.**





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FREEHOLD



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