

INFORM. EDUCATE. ENGAGE.

ISSUE

N° 01

2023

samudra



**MaritimeSG
Care Awards
honour outstanding
contributors
during pandemic**

**UN recommends
coordinated action
for transport workers
during Emergencies**

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**SEACARE
FOCUS**

Blu Ventures
shines at FairPrice
Partners Excellence
Awards 2023

Seacare Community
Shop offers gift
vouchers for less-
privileged families



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I often get calls from unknown numbers claiming to be from government agencies and other renowned entities. To protect myself from scams, I avoid picking up phone calls with the “+” prefix and add these numbers to my list of blocked contacts.

By **ADDING** better security to my phone, I can prevent myself from falling victim to scams. You can too.

Danny Yeo, 74

I Can **ACT** Against Scams

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security apps and
privacy settings

CHECK
with official
sources

TELL
friends and family
about scams



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**SPOT THE SIGNS.
STOP THE CRIMES.**



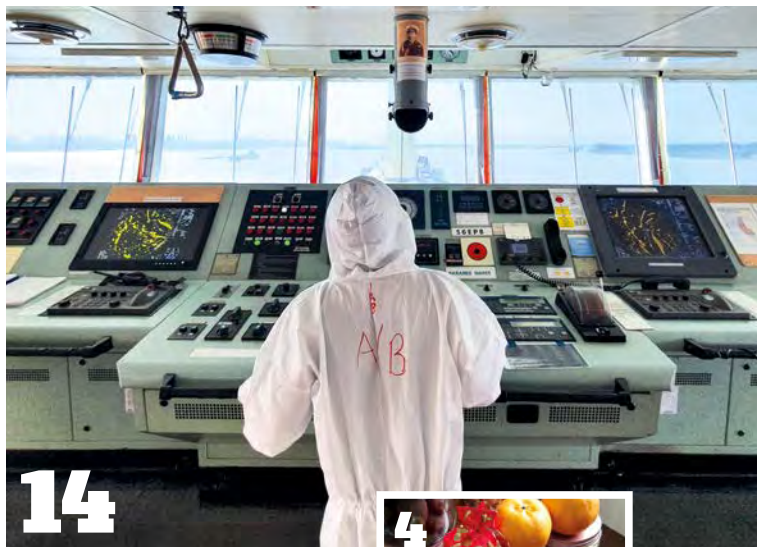
**SINGAPORE
POLICE FORCE**
SAFEGUARDING EVERY DAY

**tote
board**
Giving Hope
Empowering Lives



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SOS Celebrates a night of appreciation for Filipino members

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SOS hosted a memorable Member's Night get-together party in Manila on Feb 24, a celebration attended by 330 shipping and manning companies, affiliates and Filipino members.

THE HIGHLY-ANTICIPATED ANNUAL EVENT, PUT ON HOLD AMID THE PANDEMIC, was filled with entertainment and strong camaraderie, as seafarers and members of the seafaring communities caught up with one another and shared their experience during challenging period.

In his welcome speech, SOS General Secretary Daniel Tan expressed his heartfelt appreciation for the Filipino members' perseverance in keeping the world moving despite the global pandemic. He emphasised how seafarers played



a crucial role in ensuring essential goods and supplies reached those in need.

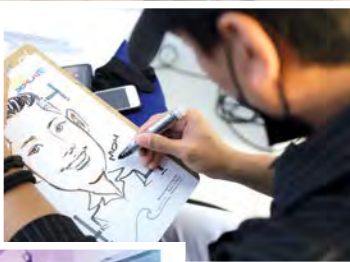
Brother Daniel highlighted SOS's ongoing efforts to enhance Filipino members' welfare and benefits, including

the soon-to-be-launched Seacare Sailor's Home in Manila. The new initiative, designed to accommodate up to 30 seafarers a day, provides a place to stay for members signing on or off in Manila.

Furthermore, Brother Daniel urged members to experience the newly refurbished Seacare Drop-In Centre when their vessels berth at the Pasir Panjang Terminal in Singapore, offering them a comfortable space to recharge and connect with loved ones. In addition, he shared SOS's commitment to social responsibility by illustrating the



Celebrating friendship, camaraderie and wonderful memories amid wonderful entertainment and good food



Mikko Angeles


AB representing MMSL Pte Ltd

IT'S MY FIRST SOS EVENT. I have been sailing thus unaware of such regular gatherings for members. I thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment and delighted by the overall experience. I also get to meet fellow seafarers and received a nice, practical door gift.



ongoing support for the less-privileged children of Asilo de San Vicente de Paul since 2013.

The evening celebration included raffle draws, buffet dinner and entertainment acts by Giselle Sanchez, LOL dancers, Kool Jack live band, and Katya Santos. The night culminated with a grand raffle draw, where Brother Daniel presented the top prizes to the lucky winners.

The SOS Member's Night was a fitting tribute to the Filipino members, acknowledging their dedication, hard work, and the significant role they play as seafarers and key transport workers. 



HAPPENINGS



OUTREACH

GIFTING LUNAR NEW YEAR SNACKS TO 800 WELFARE HOME RESIDENTS

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EMBODYING THE SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY, SOS member- and-staff volunteers on Jan 17 delivered festive snacks to some 800 welfare home residents in celebration of Lunar New Year 2023

The volunteers who made the gifting possible included Brother Tan Eng Huat, Brother Muhammad Fadzly and Brother Jeffrey Chew.

These dedicated individuals delivered boxes of snacks such as pineapple tarts, almond cookies and mandarin oranges to beneficiaries from Sree Narayana Mission Home for the Aged Sick, Jamiyah Home for the Aged (Darul Takrim), Ling Kwang Home for Senior Citizens,

and AWWA Community Home for Senior Citizens.

The staff and residents of the welfare homes expressed their appreciation to SOS for the thoughtful gesture, which made their Lunar New Year special and brought smiles to their faces.



MEMORABLE GET-TOGETHER AT SOS MEMBER'S NIGHT

SOS members gathered at Club@52 on Mar 18 for a night of camaraderie at the first SOS Member's Night of the year. The evening kicked off with a sumptuous buffet that satisfied every palate. Lively entertainment and interactive games filled the venue, creating an atmosphere of joy and laughter. Members caught up with fellow seamen, snapped selfies and had a good time. The night culminated in a thrilling lucky draw, leaving attendees with beaming smiles, cherished memories, and new friendships forged.



YOUNG NTUC WORKPLAN SEMINAR 2023

FROM MAR 11 – 14, YOUNG NTUC MEMBERS, INCLUDING SOS STAFF SISTER MOON TAN,

convened in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam, for a Workplan Seminar to discuss the aspirations and challenges of students and young working adults in Singapore.

The seminar aims to identify areas where NTUC can enhance support for youths in their education and career pursuits. In addition to the seminar, team building activities were organised



to strengthen camaraderie and networking among the 46 participants. As part of the trip, the group visited Co.op Xtra, a joint venture between Vietnam's Saigon Co.op and Singapore's NTUC FairPrice, showcasing the benefits of

international retail partnerships.

During the visit, participants delved into the innovative business model, marketing strategies and supply chain management, sparking inspiration for further collaborative efforts in the future.



CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY WITH BAKING AND BONDING

THE SOS WOMEN & YOUTH COMMITTEE ORGANISED A 'BAKE AND BOND' SESSION for women members at Bells Baking



Studio on Mar 31 to celebrate International Women's Day 2023.

The intimate gathering of 16 participants was treated to an evening of enriching dialogue and laughter. To further cultivate camaraderie, a spirited mini-game

ensued, where participants formed teams to inspire collaboration and fellowship. The crowning achievement of the event was the exquisite Summer Paradise Rolls, crafted by each team to symbolise their collective accomplishments.





Celebrating Lunar New Year 2023 with Long Membership Award presentation

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SOS and Seacare hosted their Lunar New Year Celebration and Long membership award presentation on Jan 27, which saw a strong turnout of maritime tripartite partners, associates and members at Fairmont Singapore.

THE EVENT WAS ATTENDED BY GUEST-OF-HONOUR GRACE FU, Minister of Sustainability and the Environment, and Advisor to SOS.

In his opening address, General Secretary Daniel Tan welcomed attendees and expressed delight at the strong attendance and festive mood. Brother Daniel conveyed a message of hope and





optimism, noting that the global pandemic was stabilising, and SOS had resumed ship visits and physical interactions with seafarers. He emphasised the importance of collaboration with maritime tripartite partners to improve the working and living standards of seafarers.

Brother Daniel highlighted the recent refurbishment of the Seacare Drop-In Centre at Pasir Panjang Terminal, providing a cosy ambience for seafarers to recharge and



rejuvenate. He also noted that Seacare Co-operative has partnered with SOS and Chip Eng Seng Group to disburse Seacare

Community Shop gift vouchers monthly to less privileged households.

In her speech, Sister Grace Fu extended

her warmest wishes

to all attendees for a happy, healthy, and prosperous Lunar New Year. Sister Grace expressed her admiration for SOS and Seacare's efforts to support seafarers and their families, particularly during

the challenging times of the Covid-19 pandemic. She highlighted the importance of collaboration and partnerships to address the issues facing the maritime industry and ensure the well-being of seafarers.





Long Membership Award presentation

As part of the programme, the SOS Long Membership tokens were presented to members. It was also the first time SOS presented the 50th year Long Membership category under the enhanced Benefit n Welfare scheme for members.

A token of appreciation was also presented to the Seafarers' Provident Funds (SPF) Administrative Committee members to thank them for contributing to the scheme, which successfully ceased in 2022.

The celebration continued with stage performances and the auspicious presentation of Year of the Rabbit coin sets by eight Gods of Fortune. Side draws were also conducted for participants.

(Above): SOS Long Membership recipients;
(Below): token of appreciation presented to the Seafarers' Provident Fund (SPF) Administrative Committee members for their contribution to the scheme

The celebration was an excellent networking opportunity for industry and tripartite partners to connect, share ideas and discuss future collaborations. The strong turnout was a testament to the robust partnerships between SOS, Seacare, and the broader maritime community. 



SOS, SEACARE STAFF USHER IN YEAR OF THE RABBIT



On the eve of the celebration at Fairmont, SOS and Seacare staff ushered in the Year of the Rabbit at the Seacare Building with Lion Dance, Plucking the Greens ceremony and the auspicious *Lohei* (tossing raw fish) – symbolic activities for good luck, success and prosperity. The lively celebration was followed by rounds of exciting lucky draw segments, leaving everyone feeling energised and hopeful about the year ahead.

Maritime tripartite partners receive National Awards (Covid-19)

SOS congratulates **President Brother Kam Soon Huat** on being conferred The Public Service Medal (Covid-19) under the National Awards (Covid-19).

THE PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL IS PRESENTED TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS

who have made significant contributions to managing the impact of the pandemic.

The recognition is a testament to the dedication and unwavering commitment by Brother Kam and SOS in safeguarding the health and livelihood of seafarers.

SOS also extend congratulations to our maritime tripartite partners on receiving the following National Day Award (Covid-19) – Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) Captain Muhammad Segar Abdullah with The Public Administration Medal (Gold) (Covid-19); Singapore Shipping Association (SSA) President Sister Caroline Yang, The Public Service Star (Covid-19); and NTUC President and SMOU General Secretary Sister Mary with The Public Service Star (Covid-19).

The National Awards (Covid-19) are presented to some 9,500 individuals, including 4,000 individuals from the public healthcare sector, 4,500 from



the public sector, and 900 from the private and people sectors.

The number and spread of the award recipients reflected how the fight against Covid-19 has been a national-wide effort. This includes those who provided medical care, surveillance and testing, organised the vaccination drive, oversaw safe distancing, ran dormitory operations and ensured our economic, supply chain and social resilience. [S](#)





MaritimeSG Care Awards honour outstanding contributors during pandemic

10°11

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The MaritimeSG Care Awards Appreciation reception on Mar 2 brought together organisations recognised for their outstanding contribution to Maritime Singapore, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic.

THESE ORGANISATIONS INCLUDE SHIPPING COMPANIES, UNIONS AND MEDICAL PROVIDERS that have demonstrated exceptional care and compassion in ensuring the well-being and welfare of their crew and seafarers. These recipients have gone above and beyond their call of duty, showing tireless efforts and dedication to caring for those working in the industry.

SOS, Seacare Co-operative, Seacare Maritime Medical Centre, and The Seacare Hotel were among the recipients of the award presented by Mr S Iswaran, Minister for Transport and

Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations. In his speech, Mr Iswaran expressed his gratitude to the attendees for their dedication and service to Singapore during these extraordinary times. Mr Iswaran praised the collective efforts of maritime tripartite partners and acknowledged the crucial role of seafarers and maritime frontline workers in the global supply chain, ensuring Singapore's continued access to essential goods during the pandemic. In addition, Mr Iswaran emphasised the need to embrace new opportunities as the maritime sector




Mr Iswaran praised the collective efforts of maritime tripartite partners and acknowledged the crucial role of seafarers and maritime frontline workers in the global supply chain, ensuring Singapore's continued access to essential goods during the pandemic

transitions to a new normal, where digitalisation and sustainability will fundamentally change the way it operates. He highlighted the need to implement new technologies and policies while ensuring workers are supported through upskilling and rescaling.

At the event, Caroline Yang, president of the Singapore Shipping Association, urged the audience to bear in mind the valuable lessons learned during the pandemic. Ms Yang emphasised the importance of initiatives like crew change and global seafarers' vaccination, which were made possible by the collective

effort of tripartite partners, showcasing Singapore's true resilience.

NTUC President Mary Liew echoed her sentiment, drawing attention to the trust established between partners, which allowed them to turn crises into opportunities. She urged continued cooperation to bring Singapore to greater heights, expressing her gratitude for the bravery and hard work of all involved.

The MaritimeSG Care Awards Appreciation reception was a reminder that while the industry may face many challenges, it is the people who work in it that truly make a difference. 



SOS, Seacare Co-operative, Seacare Maritime Medical Centre, and The Seacare Hotel were among the recipients of the award presented by Mr S Iswaran, Minister for Transport and Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations



Surviving the Storm: Navigating the post-pandemic workforce landscape

12°13

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According to the World Employment and Social Outlook Trends 2023 report by the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Covid-19 pandemic has severely impacted the world of work, resulting in widespread job losses, increased poverty and growing inequality.

THE REPORT INDICATED THAT GLOBAL WORKING HOURS DECLINED by an estimated 8.8 per cent in 2020, equivalent to the loss of 255 million full-time jobs.

Global unemployment and inequalities

The pandemic exacerbated global unemployment and inequality, with 473 million globally jobless. This included 205 million who were unemployed and

473
MILLION

**GLOBALLY
JOBLESS
INCLUDES
205 MILLION WHO
WERE UNEMPLOYED
AND ACTIVELY
SEARCHING
FOR JOBS**

actively searching for jobs and 268 million who were not currently looking for a job, but still needed one.

In 2022, the global labour force participation rate for women was 47 per cent compared to 72 per cent for men, suggesting a staggering gender gap in employment.

Furthermore, young adults (aged 15-24) faced three times the unemployment rate of adults and struggled to secure decent jobs; one in

five remained unemployed and not enrolled in any education or training.

Informal work sector and extreme poverty

Globally, two billion people worked in the informal sector, where they typically had fewer job protections and no access to social safety nets. This was particularly true in rural areas.

The report shared that 214 million people live in extreme poverty, despite being employed. The Covid-19 pandemic made it even more difficult for workers in these sectors to access protections and safety nets, exacerbating their challenges.

Addressing the impact of technology on training

Amid these challenges, the report spotlighted how technological advancements, specifically automation and artificial intelligence, further impacted employment.

To help workers navigate the ever-evolving labour market, the paper called for investment in education and training programmes that provided workers with the necessary skills to adapt to evolving industry demands.

It highlighted the need to invest in education and training


programmes – with an extra US\$3.2 trillion needed to help workers adapt to the changing job market in the next five years.

Human-centric approach key in labour issues

Considering the challenges, the paper called for social dialogue and collaboration between governments, employers, and unions to address these pressing issues. It advocated for a human-centric approach to the world of work, where social protection, labour rights, and decent work took centre stage in policy responses.

The report urged international cooperation during crises and a new global social contract to address decent work and social justice deficits.

In response, the ILO planned to launch a 'Global Coalition for Social Justice' programme this year to promote decent work and social justice by strengthening global solidarity, improving policy coherence, and bringing about action and investment for decent work and social justice.

Let us work together towards creating a better future for all workers! 

2
BILLION

**INFORMAL
WORKERS
HAD FEWER JOB
PROTECTIONS
AND NO ACCESS
TO SOCIAL
SAFETY NETS**

214
MILLION

**WORKERS IN
EXTREME
POVERTY –
DESPITE BEING
EMPLOYED**

**GENDER GAP
IN EMPLOYMENT**

47%
WOMEN

72%
MEN





UN recommends coordinated action for transport workers during Public Health Emergencies

14°15

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The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the crucial role played by the transport sector in ensuring the movement of people and goods during public health emergencies of international concern (PHEIC).

HOWEVER, TRANSPORT WORKERS, PARTICULARLY MOBILE WORKERS, SUCH AS SEAFARERS, TRUCKERS, RAILWAY WORKERS, AND AIRCREW, have faced significant challenges to their livelihoods and health while facilitating the global supply chain.

At the height of the pandemic, seafarers have been marooned at sea for prolonged periods due to travel restrictions, leading to mental and physical fatigue. Truckers have

encountered difficulties in accessing rest areas and facilities. Pilots and airline crews have had to deal with job loss and uncertainty as the aviation industry takes a hit, and railway workers have had to cope with the increased pressure to maintain service levels with reduced staff.

Governments worldwide have enforced public health and social measures, including travel-related measures, to curb the spread of outbreaks. Some of these measures,

44 ILO and WHO set up a Joint Action Group to review the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the world's transport workers and the global supply chain (JAG-TSC) and wants to minimise the adverse effects on transport workers while safeguarding public health and local communities.

however, have infringed on transport workers' rights. The UN thus issued recommendations, including legal, policy, and technical guidance, to support the transport sector during the pandemic.

To further address pressing concerns, the ILO and WHO set up a Joint Action Group to review the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the world's transport workers and the global supply chain (JAG-TSC). The group wants to minimise the adverse effects on transport workers while safeguarding public health and local communities.

The UN also established a task force on Covid-19's impact on seafarers. The task force will consider JAG-TSC's recommendations and advise the UN Development Cooperation Office (DCO) and UN Resident Coordinators (UNRCs) on potential targeted and coordinated outreach efforts to inform decision-makers and the public about seafarers' challenges.

UNRCs are vital in coordinating between agencies and promoting engagement for decision-making, supporting the Sustainable Development Goals 3, 8, and 16.

The JAG-TSC suggests more effective means to address transportation issues during the pandemic and future PHEICs, including improved national coordination with affected countries.

The following are among the recommendations to address these issues and future PHEICs:

1 Transport organisations, including employers and labour organisations, should use modalities to engage in ongoing intergovernmental processes at WHO regarding a future WHO Convention or agreement on pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response.

2 Transport organisations should identify contact points for coordination and rapid action concerning Covid-19 and future PHEICs and the related work of UN agencies.

3 Transport bodies should promote workers' health by encouraging their members to voice their concerns and needs regarding PHEICs and related actions at the national level.

4 Transport bodies should improve the living and working conditions of mobile and cross-border workers and facilitate transportation across international borders by engaging in effective social dialogue with employers and workers' organisations at global, regional, and national levels.

5 Governments should recognise transport workers as 'key workers' during PHEICs with the support of UNRCs and UNCTs. They should improve working conditions for mobile and cross-border transport workers and transportation across borders by engaging in effective social dialogue with employers and workers' organisations. **S**

SOS fosters collaborative partnership and solidarity with global affiliates

SOS IR delegates attended three key meetings in Asia early this year to strengthen cross-border cooperation and international solidarity with seafarer unions.

THE DELEGATE ATTENDED A JOINT ALL JAPAN SEAMEN'S UNION (JSU) / SINGAPORE MARITIME OFFICERS' UNION (SMOU) / SOS SUMMIT MEETING

on Jan 12 in Tokyo, Japan. SOS President Kam Soon Huat, Executive Secretary Chen Chuanyi, IR Officers Eugene Guo and Alan Kor, attended the meeting.

The three unions shared information on the Covid-19 situation in their respective countries, as well as shipping industry trends and operations. They also discussed existing MoUs to explore ways to further strengthen their multilateral relations.



(Above): Union leaders from SMOU, JSU and SOS

(From left): SOS IR delegates Alan Kor, Eugene Guo and ES Chen Chuanyi; JSU General Director of International Affairs Bureau Yoshiyuki Ikeya; SOS President Kam Soon Huat; JSU President Mitsuura Matsuura; and JSU Director of International Affairs Bureau Hiroyuki Watanabe



16°17

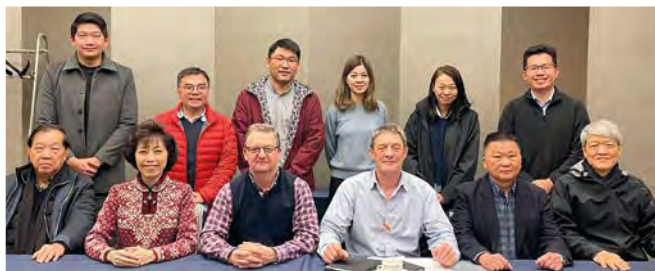
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The second event, the Nautilus Federation Meeting, was held at the same venue, two days later on Jan 14. The meeting was joined by delegates from the Merchant Navy Officers' Guild – Hong Kong (MNOG-HK) and Nautilus International. The discussion focused on solidarity and alliance, with delegates exchanging information and sharing best practices on seafarers' welfare. Delegates also discussed ways to strengthen bonds among ITF affiliates and provided updates on upcoming events and conferences.

On Feb 16, Brother Kam and Brother Chen also attended the Federation of Korean Seafarers' Union (FKSU) Annual Congress in Busan, South Korea. The event was attended by more than 200 delegates and key decision-makers, including the minister of Oceans and Fisheries and members of the National Assembly.

The event allowed FKSU's partners to convene and renew their



(Above): The Nautilus Federation Meeting, joined by delegates from MNOG-HK and Nautilus International; (Right): Congratulating Brother Park Seong Yong on his election as the FKSU's 31st president

commitment to shared goals. SOS congratulated Brother Park Seong Yong on his election as the FKSU's 31st president and thanked Immediate Past President Brother Chung Tae Kil for his leadership and valuable contributions.

SOS looks forward to attending more such events to further strengthen its ties and international alliance. **S**



Day of the Seafarer 2023: Seafarers, MARPOL and the marine environment

On Jun 25, the global maritime community will unite to pay homage to the unsung heroes of our world's oceans – the seafarers. The Day of the Seafarer (DotS) celebrates seafarers' invaluable contributions to international trade, the world economy, and civil society.

THIS YEAR'S DOTS THEME, "SEAFARERS, MARPOL, AND THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT," gracefully aligns with the World Maritime theme "MARPOL at 50 – Our commitment goes on."


It emphasises the critical role of seafarers in preserving the marine environment and encourages them to share their awe-inspiring photos of the ocean. The public is also encouraged to participate by sharing oceanic images on social platforms using the hashtag #OceansWorthProtecting.

The MARPOL Convention, an international treaty crafted to prevent

marine pollution, is a quintessential guardian of our ocean's health. However, the diligent efforts of seafarers in ensuring compliance with the MARPOL regulations and preserving the marine environment for future generations cannot be overstated.

Despite their unwavering dedication, seafarers have encountered numerous obstacles, especially during the pandemic. These include gruelling crew changes, limited access to medical care, and inequitable working conditions. The DotS recognises their significant contribution and underscores the need to honour and recognise their efforts towards creating a brighter future for them.

As we celebrate the Day of the Seafarer, let us collectively express our gratitude and admiration for these unsung heroes, whose tireless work and selflessness have enabled us to thrive as a global community.

Let us work towards a better future for seafarers and our planet by appreciating their invaluable contributions, improving their working conditions and protecting our oceans. Through this, we can ensure that the critical role of seafarers in preserving our oceans is celebrated and honoured for generations to come. 

#OceansWorthProtecting #DotS2023

18°19

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KNOW YOUR HEALTH:

Essential health tips for seafarers

Seafaring work can make seafarers prone to various health issues. The ITF has created health tips and advices to help seafarers prioritise their physical and mental well-being.

In this issue, we share about Monkeypox.

Monkeypox spreads through contact with lesions, body fluids, respiratory droplets and contaminated materials. Rodents in West and Central Africa can transmit it through bites, skin contact or consumption of their undercooked meat.

Health Risks

- Complications include secondary skin infections, pneumonia, confusion, and eye problems.

Symptoms

- High fever with shivering or chills
- Headache
- Muscle aches and backache
- Swollen glands
- Exhaustion

Treatment

- Prevent dehydration by drinking fluids. Choose properly sealed bottled water when abroad, if possible

- Take medicine such as acetaminophen or paracetamol to reduce fever and pain.
- Clean the rash with antiseptic or sterilised water. Use saltwater rinses for lesions in the mouth, and baking soda and Epsom salt in warm baths for lesions on the body.

Prevention

- Avoid close skin-to-skin contact with individuals who have a rash resembling monkeypox.
- Refrain from touching the rash or scabs of an infected person.
- Do not share utensils or cups with individuals who has monkeypox.
- Regularly wash your hands with soap or use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser.

SCAN HERE FOR THE FULL GUIDANCE/FACTSHEET



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS:

Understanding the basic rights of seafarers

As a seafarer, it is vital to know your rights to work safely and fairly. Here are some basic rights established by the International Labour Organization (ILO) that you should be aware of. As a seafarer, you have the right to:

- 1** Work in a safe and healthy environment
- 2** Receive fair wages and benefits for the work you do
- 3** Rest periods and breaks during work to ensure you are not overworked and can perform your duties safely and effectively.
- 4** Receive medical care and assistance when necessary.
- 5** Work in an environment that is free from discrimination and harassment.
- 6** Join or form trade unions to advocate for your rights and interests.

If you believe your rights are violated or if you are facing other problems at work, you can seek assistance from relevant organisations or authorities.

Remember, it is important to understand your rights and to stand up for yourself if you believe they are infringed.

SCAN HERE FOR THE FULL CHECKLIST:





Smartphone Training Workshop equips members for the digital age

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A SOS SMARTPHONE TRAINING WORKSHOP (Intermediate)

took place at the Seacare Building's Maritime Hall on Mar 4, participated by 15 members eager to embrace digitalisation. The event focused on enhancing participants' smartphone skills, empowering them to connect with friends and family while exploring the world of online shopping.



Participants learned about setting up email account, composing messages, and managing their inbox. They were also introduced to online shopping, product search, price comparison and making secure payment.

The workshop was a valuable experience for attendees, equipping them with the skills to confidently navigate the digital landscape. By embracing digitalisation and fostering continuous learning, members can ensure they stay connected and enjoy the benefits of modern technology. [S](#)



SEACARE FOCUS



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**SEACARE FOUNDATION PTE LTD HAS
TAKEN UP A 25 PER CENT STAKE IN**

EduCap Advisory Pte Ltd (EduCap), a Singapore-based firm providing a funding platform to aspiring authors and publishers for the publishing of assessment books.

This investment enabled EduCap to scale its operations and collaborate with education content providers and edu-tech companies to nurture educational innovation in Singapore and the ASEAN region. The firm is a new subsidiary of Seacare, under its Investment Cluster, represented by directors Ong Zhiwei and George Foo.

Helmed by Steve Kek, EduCap plans to create an ecosystem for publishing book titles that foster collaborations among authors, publishers, and investors. The collaborations not only generate returns for investors but support aspiring authors in getting their work published.



Seacare invests in EduCap Advisory, empowering authors and fostering educational innovation

The investment allows EduCap to expand operations and work with regional education content providers and edu-tech firms to foster educational innovation.

At Seacare, we believe in investing in companies that are committed to making a positive impact on society. We are proud to support EduCap's mission to support aspiring authors and foster educational innovation.

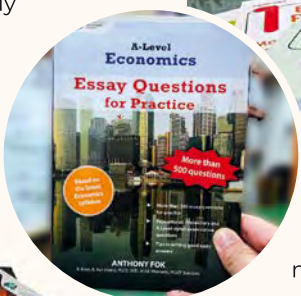
Ong Zhiwei

Deputy Chairman, Management Team (Investments)

Starting January, EduCap would fund 24 book titles over the next 18 months in a deal with CPD Singapore Education Service, one of the country's largest assessment book publishers. The titles, ranging from pre-school to university level, will be distributed across a variety of channels, including online platforms like Lazada and brick-and-mortar stores such as Popular Bookstores. The agreement underscores EduCap's strong commitment to supporting Singapore's publishing industry.


EduCap aims to launch another business vertical in the form of Education Advisory and is in talks with Edu-tech companies to represent them in Singapore and the ASEAN region.

The firm is simultaneously broadening its scope to encompass corporate training and professional development advisory services for corporate



professionals and management personnel.

"At Seacare, we believe in

investing in companies that are committed to making a positive impact on society. We are proud to support EduCap's mission to support aspiring authors and foster educational innovation. We look forward to seeing the positive impact EduCap will make in Singapore and beyond," said Mr Ong. 

Blu Ventures shines at FairPrice Partners Excellence Awards 2023

Blu Ventures Pte Ltd, an associate company of Seacare and a trusted supplier of seafood products to NTUC FairPrice, was awarded the Most Popular Brand with its Tobikoya series products at the prestigious FairPrice Partners Excellence Awards 2023.

THE EVENT, HELD ON FEB 2 AT RAFFLES CITY CONVENTION CENTRE, celebrated partnerships and recognised companies that contributed to FairPrice's success in the past year.


The award was a well-deserved recognition for Blu Ventures, which supplies high-quality seafood products such as



US scallops and Saba fillets under the Tobikoya series.

Mr Xavier Kang, director of Strategy and Revenue Management at Blu Ventures Holdings Pte Ltd, received the award from FairPrice Chief Procurement Officer, Tng Ah Yiam, on stage.

The event was attended by industry leaders and provided an excellent opportunity for networking and building relationships among industry and business partners.

Seacare congratulates Blu Ventures for its well-deserved recognition and looks forward to continuing its strong collaboration to provide quality seafood products to consumers. 





Seacare Community Shop opens, offers gift vouchers for less-privileged families in Singapore

The Seacare Community Shop is more than just a new retail outlet. It's an initiative by Seacare Co-operative Ltd to give back to the community by providing gift vouchers to beneficiaries and less privileged residents in Singapore, allowing them to shop at the Seacare Community Shop.

LOCATED AT THE SEACARE BUILDING, THE SHOP OFFICIALLY OPENED ON JAN 3. The occasion was attended by distinguished guests: Seacare Group Executive Chairman Leow Ching Chuan, Seacare Holdings Chairman Kong Mun Kwong, Seacare Foundation Chairman Goh Yeow Tin, Seacare Group Advisor Raymond Chia, Seacare Co-operative Treasurer Lee Van Chong, SOS President Kam Soon Huat, Blu Ventures Holdings Senior Director Henry Foo and Jalan Kukoh Residents' Committee (JKRC) Chairman Lim Kay Yong.





SOS and Seacare members, partners and affiliates also joined in the celebration to support this community-driven initiative.

Seacare Community Shop, operated by FishopMart, the convenient arm of Fishop Pte Ltd, provides gift vouchers to low-income families and various beneficiaries, allowing them to shop for nutritious seafood products. The shop offers a range of products, including codfish, prawns and scallops.

A group of Jalan Kukoh households were among the first shoppers at FishopMart on the day of its opening. The residents were excited to find a wide range of seafood options and expressed their positive feedback and appreciation.



A group of Jalan Kukoh households were among the first shoppers at FishopMart on the day of its opening, were excited to find a wide range of seafood options and expressed their positive feedback and appreciation



With Seacare Community Shop, we hope to foster a sense of togetherness and support for our community by distributing gift vouchers to various beneficiaries, enabling them to shop at our store. It's our way to give back to the community and spreading the joy of sharing a delicious meal.

Leow Ching Chuan

Executive Chairman of Seacare Co-operative

Monthly gift vouchers for 250 Jalan Kukoh and Chin Swee households

To ensure that Seacare Community Shop reaches those who need it the most, Seacare collaborated with JKRC and Chin Swee Residents' Committee to distribute gift vouchers to 250 selected households in both estates, with each receiving \$50 worth of monthly vouchers in 2023.

The vouchers, sponsored by Singapore Organisation of Seamen, Seacare Co-operative and Chip Eng Seng Group, would help these families alleviate the financial burden of purchasing seafood.

"I'm thrilled and thankful for the vouchers. I intend to apportion the food for different meals. Many of us are not working so we could not have afforded such treats. Your vouchers made our lives easier to live by," said Mr Liu, who



works odd jobs due to his health.

Fellow resident Ms Jocema, who cooks daily, thanked the sponsors for their generosity and unwavering support for less privileged residents.

Jocema said the initiative helps lower-income families, especially those with young children who need nutritional food. She fondly recalled the many

other Seacare community-centric activities her family has benefitted from, such as Mooncakes and festive goodies.

"With Seacare Community

Shop, we hope to foster a sense of togetherness and support for our community by distributing gift vouchers to various beneficiaries, enabling them to shop at our store. It's our way to give back to the community and spreading the joy of sharing a delicious meal," said Mr Leow.





Gift vouchers for other communities

To extend the same benefits to other communities, Seacare hosted three batches of Sengkang residents on Jan 13, Feb 23 and Mar 21, respectively.


In collaboration with Sengkang East Constituency @ Rivervale CC, the initiative presented each resident with \$100 worth of Seacare gift vouchers to purchase seafood products at FishopMart.

The residents sampled cuisines prepared by FishopMart using the same seafood, allowing them to taste the quality of the products before making their purchases.

On Mar 10, Seacare also welcomed beneficiaries from the Handicap Welfare Association to enjoy a similar culinary experience and receive \$100

worth of Seacare gift vouchers redeemable at the FishopMart.

These visits were a roaring success as the invitees beamed with joy at the opportunity to buy quality seafood products otherwise out of their budget.

Seacare cares deeply about giving back to the community and continually seeks ways to help those who need it most. The co-operative will continue to work on different ways to make a positive impact on the lives around us. 

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Complimentary Health Screening Package

For All Qualified
SOS Local Members



Qualified SOS local members are entitled to the following:

Complimentary Health Screening at the Seacare Maritime Medical Centre

The Health Screening Package provides:

- Consultation and Complete Physical Examination
- Biophysical Measurement
- Office tests
- Imaging Studies
- Lipid Profile
- Liver Profile
- Hepatitis Profile
- Kidney Profile
- Endocrine Profile
- Bone & Joint Profile
- Veneral Profile
- Urinalysis
- Full Blood Count
- 3 Cancer Markers
- Medical Review

Eye Examination Reimbursement

Reimbursement benefit of up to S\$100 (nett) for:

- Eye Examination
- Eye Check-Up
- Consultation
- Medication
- Treatment and related costs obtained from any eye centre, clinic and/or hospital



For more information on SMS and appointment booking, please contact

SOS Membership Services

52 Chin Swee Road #05-00 Seacare Building Singapore 169875
Tel: (65) 6379 5666 Fax: (65) 6836 3976 Email: sms@seacare.com.sg

THE SEACARE COMMUNITY SHOP



**PREMIUM
FROZEN PRODUCTS
& GROCERIES**

**Operating
Hours**

(from 1 Jun 2023)

**Mon-Sat
1pm - 6pm**

*Exclude Public
Holidays

#02-00 Seacare Building (Beside Club@52)