



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
MAJURO, MARSHALL ISLANDS

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Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands

**Statement on the Adoption of the International Maritime Organization's
Initial Strategy to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

The President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Her Excellency Dr. Hilda C. Heine, issued the below statement today following the International Maritime Organization's adoption of an Initial Strategy to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions at its 72nd Marine Environment Protection Committee meeting in London.

“Today the IMO has made history. While it may not be enough to give my country the certainty it wanted, it makes it clear that international shipping will now urgently reduce emissions and play its part in giving my country a pathway to survival.”

“This deal helps make every country a little safer, but even with a landmark sectoral cap and clear targets to reduce emissions consistent with the Paris Agreement, we will need to improve it over time in line with the latest science.”

“As one of the world's most vulnerable countries, and one of those most reliant on shipping including as the second biggest flag state, our delegation fought hard for this outcome. I want to particularly pay tribute to our Pacific Island sisters & brothers, including New Zealand, as well as Australia. And just as they did in Paris, Kigali and at ICAO, our High Ambition Coalition played a key role in securing this landmark deal.”

“When the late Tony de Brum first pushed the IMO to take action in 2015, many said it could not be done. There will be a star in heaven shining very brightly down on us tonight.”

Contact point:

Thom Woodroofe
+44 7958 264 007

thom.woodroofe@highambitioncoalition.org