



Representing the European Maritime Pilots' Association (EMPA), Senior Vice President Miguel Vieira de Castro attended the 45th Brazilian Maritime Pilots' meeting from December 5th to 6th in Brasília. The event occurred during the commemoration of the 215th anniversary of CONAPRA, the Brazilian Maritime Pilots Association.



The gathering was an excellent opportunity for maritime professionals from Europe and Brazil to collaborate and exchange knowledge, strengthening their ties.

The first day of the meeting was held at the Instituto Praticagem do Brasil, where the Brazilian Pilots held their general meeting. Previous Vice President Bruno Fonseca was elected President, succeeding Ricardo Falcão, current IMPA Vice President.

During the event, delegates discussed maritime issues, sharing insights and best practices to enhance safety standards and efficiency in piloting operations. The exchange of ideas between EMPA and the Brazilian Maritime Pilots' Association aimed to create a more unified approach to address challenges maritime pilots face worldwide.



Day 1 ended with a visit to the impressive and recently inaugurated simulator of CONAPRA's Instituto Praticagem do Brasil.

On day 2, the international seminar was held with a significant focus on maritime accidents, pollution prevention, and civil liability.

As Senior Vice President of EMPA, Miguel Vieira de Castro had the opportunity to present, emphasising the importance of international cooperation in ensuring safe and efficient maritime navigation, guaranteed by a market free from



competition.

He highlighted the role of associations like EMPA and CONAPRA in promoting a culture of continuous improvement and learning within the maritime piloting community.

Speakers at this conference included IMO senior legal advisor Jan de Boer, Britannia P&I associate director Michaela Damiajn-Arneri, Duarte Soares Senior Technical Consultant of ITOPF, national authorities, Members of the Parliament, Senator and the President of Labour Supreme Court.



The meeting coincided with the 215th anniversary of CONAPRA, adding historical significance to the event.



One of the key outcomes of the meeting was the identification of typical global challenges maritime pilots face, such as technological advancements, changing regulatory frameworks, and environmental concerns. The collaboration between EMPA and the Brazilian Maritime Pilots' Association aims to address these challenges collectively, fostering a safer and more sustainable maritime industry.

As the maritime community becomes increasingly interconnected, such international meetings play a crucial role in building bridges and strengthening bonds among professionals. EMPA's recent participation in the Brazilian Maritime Pilots' and the TangerMed Pilots' meetings reflects our commitment to fostering a global network focused on the shared goal of ensuring

maritime navigation's safety and efficiency while promoting European values in Maritime Pilotage.

