



THE NATO TRANSPORT GROUP OCEAN SHIPPING (TGOS)

Maritime Administration Fact Sheet

The Transport Group (Ocean Shipping) (TGOS) was established in 1950 by the North Atlantic Council (NAC), the highest political body in NATO to advise the Alliance on the availability of commercial sealift and the best use of civilian maritime assets during NATO operations, times of war, and international crises.

MARAD's Associate Administrator for Strategic Sealift, serves as the Chairman of TGOS. Additional MARAD staff supporting TGOS functions include Mr. Nuns Jain as the U.S. Voting Representative, and Mr. William Kaag as the TGOS Secretary. TGOS meets in a plenary session once each year to make policy decisions and review outputs from the subordinate Working Group, which meets as necessary to carry out tasks assigned by the NAC, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), and the NATO Civil Emergency Preparedness Committee (CEPC).

The TGOS is primarily responsible for the following:

- Facilitating rapid NATO access to commercial shipping in support of NATO military deployments, peacekeeping operations, and disaster response requirements;
- Advising NATO planners on the cost and availability of all types of militarily useful commercial vessels;
- Maintaining and training a cadre of civilian experts from the maritime industry to support NATO military authorities, and Civil Emergency Planning (CEP). TGOS trains civilian experts by arranging for their participation in the NATO operations, exercises and deployments. All NATO experts are unpaid volunteers from NATO member nations;
- Advising the NAC, SHAPE and CEPC on emerging threats to the maritime community.

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