



## **Secretariat Annual Report - 2005**

The Secretariat has continued to administer the organisation through the International Board (2 meetings), the 2005 International Conference and AGM in Shetland, KIMO National Co ordination Meetings (3) and acting as National Co ordinator for KIMO UK administrating KIMO UK Business Meetings (4). It carries out the activities agreed at these meetings during the interim periods and has initiated, developed and implemented a number of projects as agreed by the Board.

Membership throughout the organisation continued to grow in The Netherlands/Belgium, United Kingdom and Sweden. Membership within Ireland and Norway remained at current levels. The current membership level is 112.

The new KIMO Website site attracted 4,668 visitors last year. However visits over the last six months have increased dramatically and a prediction of approximately 7,000 visitors is expected next year. A new feature is to be able to monitor how many people visit individual members through the KIMO website. A total of referrals to KIMO members last year were 2,621. The KIMO Website continues to be developed and is now a useful tool for promoting the organisation and for members downloading information.

Over the year, the Secretariat represented KIMO at 42 various stakeholder and other meetings dealing with issues concerning KIMO (See list – Appendix I). At all these meetings the Secretariat has been actively involved in promoting issues of concern and establishing valuable networks with Government delegations, other NGO's (both environmental and industry) and has prepared and presented reports on behalf of KIMO.

The Secretariat continues to participate in many of the international fora where KIMO has observer status, including the Committee of North Sea Senior Officials (CONSSO), which is now preparing for the North Sea Ministerial Meeting on Shipping and Fishing in Goteborg in 2006 and as part of that process has set up a Issue Group on Sustainable Shipping (IGSS).

In addition, the Secretariat attended, prepared and presented papers as part of the work undertaken within the OSPAR Commission at, OSPAR Environmental Impacts of Human Activities (EIHA 2004), OSPAR Biodiversity Committee (BDC 2005), OSPAR Pilot Project on Monitoring Marine Beach Litter, OSPAR Hazardous Substances Committee (HSC 2005) and OSPAR 2005 Commission meetings. KIMO was also represented at the final Rotterdam Conference held by the European Commission to develop a EU Marine Strategy.

This has involved considerable resources in time and of travel and attendance but also in research and preparing documents for submissions. Because of KIMO input into these negotiations there continues to be significant progress on issues such as marine litter, oil pollution, maritime safety, radioactive substances and chemical weapon and munitions dumps.

In particular, a considerable amount of time has been used to promote the KIMO Resolution on Maritime Safety and the proposal for a Single EU Directive on Oil Pollution and the promotion of a EU Maritime Coastguard over the year.

The KIMO International Secretariat now has the advantage of the additional support of Mr John Mouat as KIMO Project Co ordinator until March 2008 and of Mrs Paula Nicolson, KIMO Clerical Assistant. Significant effort by the Secretariat, National Co ordinators, and our sub partner, The ProSea Foundation, was targeted at the end of 2004 in development and implementation of the KIMO initiatives as part of the Interreg IIIb Save the North Sea Project up to the end of the project.

The Secretariat acts as Press Officer for the organisation, responds to requests for information and interviews from the media, and actively issues statements to the media on issues that reflect KIMO policy. As the organisation grows, more demand is required in terms of administrative duties and this is undertaken by the Secretariat.

The Secretariat would like to acknowledge the assistance it has received from all KIMO members but especially from the President, National Co ordinators and Shetland Islands Council staff and members. In particular, mention must be made of the valuable assistance and contributions to KIMO by Paula Nicolson and John Mouat.

