

## OBSERVERSHIP AT CONSSO

### BACKGROUND PAPER FOR DISCUSSION OF AIR POLLUTION FROM SHIPS IN HARBOURS, IMPROVED FUEL QUALITY, ENERGY FROM ONSHORE FACILITIES, AND OTHER OPTIONS.

At the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the IGSS in March 2004, the North Sea Commission provided a first background paper for discussion of air pollution from ships in harbours, focusing on energy from onshore facilities but also mentioning other options.

Discussions at that meeting indicated an interest in development of two main options. In addition to shore-side electricity - which may be considered a solution, which is particularly relevant in certain circumstances - there was general interest in discussing improved fuel quality and the reliable supply of such fuel to the shipping industry.

The meeting agreed that the North Sea Commission should develop the document further to the next meeting. The attached paper focuses on these two options and there provides additional ideas and potential initiatives. Attached is also a report from a study, which has investigated the option of shore-side electricity in a North Sea perspective.

### ***RECOMMENDATIONS:***

1. For discussion.