
Chao takes on HK role

Wah Kwong chairman Sabrina Chao is set to become the first woman to head the Hong Kong Shipowners' Association.



Sabrina Chao

"She is destined, if we don't have any challenge, to become chairman in November," the association's managing director Arthur Bowring said during a visit to Piraeus.

Chao is currently deputy chairman of the association, which was founded in 1957 and whose members own, manage and operate a fleet with a capacity of more than 148 million dwt. The two-year term of chairman Kingsley Koo of Valles Steamship ends later this year.

Chao and Bowring visited Greece as leading members of a Hong Kong delegation touting the special administrative region's advantages as a shipping hub and gateway to China. They particularly focused on its low taxes, stable legal and arbitration systems, as well as its position as the world's biggest offshore management hub for yuan.

Faced with a feared tax onslaught at home, some Greek owners are currently weighing their options over where they should be doing business from. But Chao dismissed any notion her delegation was out to strip Piraeus of its shipping firms.

"We're not here expecting to entice any shipowners to leave your beautiful country and set up home in Hong Kong," Chao said. "What we hope to achieve on this trip is to raise awareness of Hong Kong's shipping community and stress how it remains a vibrant, committed group with a huge pool of talent drawn from across the globe".

> More News About: [People - serious, Hong Kong](#)

BY HARRY PAPACHRISTOU IN ATHENS 01 October 2015, 09:13 GMT