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Circular Letter No.4700/Add.1  
25 April 2023

To: All IMO Members  
United Nations and specialized agencies  
Intergovernmental organizations  
Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with IMO

Subject: **International Day for Women in Maritime (18 May 2023) and Global Conference of the IMO Women in Maritime Associations (WIMAs) (18-19 May 2023).**

1 Reference is made to Circular Letter No.4700, dated 14 March 2023, announcing the Global Conference of the IMO Women in Maritime Associations (WIMAs), taking place on the occasion of the second International Day for Women in Maritime. Additional information on the event is provided, as follows.

2 The meeting will take place in the Main Hall of the IMO HQ on 18 May, and in Committee Room 9 on 19 May. The first day of the Conference will be hybrid, with in-person participation as well as active remote participation and passive remote participation (live streaming) available. The second day will be in-person only.

3 The agenda of the Conference is outlined in annex 1 of this Circular Letter, and the programme of events for the whole week is outlined in annex 2.

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## ANNEX 1

### GLOBAL CONFERENCE OF THE IMO WOMEN IN MARITIME ASSOCIATIONS

#### "Mobilizing networks for gender equality"

18-19 May 2023 - IMO Headquarters, London

#### DAY 1 – Main Hall

- 08.30 – 09.30 Registration
- 09.30 – 09.45 Opening of the event
- Mr. Kitack Lim, Secretary-General, IMO
- 09.45 – 10:00 Introduction of the Women in Maritime Programme and the IMO Women in Maritime Associations (WIMAs)/ Women in Maritime Can! Video
- Ms. Mariana Noceti, Principal Programme Assistant, Women in Maritime Programme, Sub-Division for Programme Management and Coordination, Technical Cooperation Division.
- 10:00 – 10.45 IMO WIMAs, the road so far: Presentations by the eight IMO Regional Women in Maritime Associations
- Ms. Anene Kejela Wodajo, President, Association for Women in the Maritime Sector in Eastern and Southern Africa (WOMESA)
  - Ms. Makerita Atonio, Vice-Chairperson, Pacific Women in Maritime Association (PacWIMA)
  - Ms. Florentine Guihard-Koidio, President, Network of Professional Women in the Maritime and Port Sectors for West and Central Africa (NPWMP-WCA)
  - Ms. Merle San Pedro, President, Women in Maritime Association, Asia (WIMA Asia)
- 10.45 – 11:15 Coffee Break
- 11.15 – 12.00 IMO WIMAs, the road so far: Presentations by the eight IMO Regional Women in Maritime Associations (continued)
- Ms. Tamara Lowe, President, Women in Maritime Association, Caribbean (WIMAC)
  - Ms. Shireene Galal Mounir, Director, Arab Women in Maritime Association (AWIMA)
  - Ms. Elvia Bustavino, President, Latin America Women's Maritime Association (Red MAMLa)
  - Ms. Sylvia Asana Dauda Owu, President, Women in Maritime of West and Central Africa (WIMOWCA)
- 12.00 – 12.30 WISTA International and the power of collaboration for a sustainable maritime future
- Ms. Elpi Petraki, President, WISTA International.
- 12.30 – 14.30 Lunch Break

- 14.30 – 15.30 Presentation by IMOGENder Network and panel on "Leveraging the WMU/IMLI networks and mentorships"
- Moderator: Ms. Natasha Brown, Head, Public Information Services, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division
  - Panellists:
    - H.E. Ms. Josefa Gonzalez Blanco, IMOGENder Network / Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mexico to the IMO.
    - Ms. Adel Asrawi, IMOGENder Network / Technical Coordinator, Embassy of Mexico, London.
    - Ms. Deniece M. Aiken, Founder/Secretariat of the WMU Women's Association.
    - Ms. Siphosihle Mzileni, President of the WMU Women's Association.
    - Ms. Elda Belja, Senior Lecturer / Head of Administration, IMO International Maritime Law Institute.
    - Ms. Elisiva Vika Veiongo Kapa I. Taipei Akauola, student in Master of Laws programme (LLM) in International Maritime Law, IMO IMLI.
- 15.30 – 16.00 Men as allies for gender equality
- Mr. Humberto Carolo, Executive Director, White Ribbon.
- 16.00 – 16.15 Coffee Break
- 16.15 – 17.30 Panel on "Breaking the glass ceiling"
- Moderator: Ms. Patricia Charlebois, Deputy Director, Subdivision for Implementation, Marine Environment Division.
  - Panellists:
    - The Hon. Jobeth Lillian Coleby-Davis, Minister of Transport and Housing, Bahamas.
    - Ms. Ann Fenech, President of the Comite Maritime International.
    - Capt. Radhika Menon, first woman Captain of Indian Merchant Navy, Recipient of IMO award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea 2016. Co-Founder, International Women Seafarers Foundation. Sailing Master with Synergy Maritime Group.
    - Ms. Sadan Kaptanoglu, BIMCO's Immediate Past President.
    - Ms. Kirstie Hewlett, Chief Executive and Director of Maritime New Zealand.
    - Capt. Londy Ngcobo, Ship navigator, Africa's first female dredge master, founder of Global Maritime Youth and Director of Womaritime Experts.
    - Ms. Angélica Romero, Undersecretariat of International Economic Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile.
    - Dr Lina Eyouni, Manager of Marine Planning and Monitoring for the Red Sea Zone Authority.
- 17:30 Closing of Day 1

**EVENING RECEPTION - 4th floor cafeteria/terrace**

18.00 – 21.00 International Day for Women in Maritime reception hosted by IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim.

**DAY 2 – Committee Room 9**

09.30 – 10.30 Panel "WIMAs, IMOGENder and WISTA International: future opportunities for cross-cooperation"

- Moderator: Mr. Brendan Marshall, Senior Administrative Assistant, Department of Partnerships and Projects
- Panellists:
  - H.E. Ms. Genevieve Van Rossum, IMOGENder Network / Ambassador and Permanent Representative of France to the IMO.
  - Ms. Elpi Petraki, President, WISTA International
  - Ms. Ore Toua, Maritime Training Adviser, Pacific Community.
  - Ms. Johanne Andria-Manantena, WOMESA
  - Ms. Evette Smith Johnson, WIMAC
  - Ms. Reem H. Qutaish, AWIMA

10.30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11.00 – 12.20 Development of a draft Global strategy for the IMO WIMAs

12.20 – 12.30 Closing speeches

- Mr. Xiaojie Zhang, Director, Technical Cooperation Division.

**Closed sessions:**

14.00 – 15.30 Session for WIMAs on increasing visibility through social media and public websites.

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**ANNEX 2**

**COUNTDOWN TO INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR WOMEN IN MARITIME 2023**

**Full programme of events for the week**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Location</b>
15 May 2023	11:00 am	Coffee Break during NCSR 10	Liberia	Delegates Lounge
17 May 2023	12:45 pm	Outcomes of the collaboration between Saudi Arabia and GloFouling Partnerships, "Arab Women in Maritime Biofouling Management Workshop", held in Jeddah on 10-11 May 2023	Saudi Arabia	Main Hall
17 May 2023	6:30 pm	Screening of the documentary film "Mothers at sea" <sup>1</sup> , followed by a discussion with the film director, Mrs. Nina Montagné, and the captain featured in the film, Mrs. Lou Le Galliot.	France	Ciné Lumière 17 Queensberry Place, SW7 2 DT
18 May 2023	9:30 am	Global Conference of the IMO Women in Maritime Associations - Day 1	Secretariat	Main Hall
18 May 2023	6:00 pm	International Day for Women in Maritime Reception	Secretariat	IMO Cafeteria
19 May 2023	9:30 am	Global Conference of the IMO Women in Maritime Associations - Day 2	Secretariat	Committee Room 9

<sup>1</sup> The film will be presented in French with English subtitles. Due to limited capacity, prior registration is required at [maritime@imofrance.org.uk](mailto:maritime@imofrance.org.uk).