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Circular Letter No.4878
15 May 2024

To: IMO Member States and other Governments
United Nations and specialized agencies
Intergovernmental organizations
Non-governmental organizations in consultative status

Subject: **Celebration of the IMO World Maritime Day Parallel Event in Spain
(20 to 22 October 2024)**

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Government of the Kingdom of Spain have the honour to invite interested parties to join them in celebrating this year's World Maritime Day Parallel Event in Barcelona, Spain, details of which are provided in the annexes.

ANNEX 1

**CELEBRATION OF THE IMO WORLD MARITIME DAY PARALLEL EVENT
IN BARCELONA, SPAIN**

(20 to 22 October 2024)

The Government of Spain has the honour to announce the celebration of the 2024 World Maritime Day Parallel Event (WMDPE) in Barcelona, from 20 to 22 October 2024. The offer by the Government of Spain to host the event was accepted at the 129th session of the IMO Council, held in July 2023.

A joint letter of invitation signed by the Secretary-General and the Minister for Transport and Sustainable Mobility of Spain is enclosed in annex 2.

The event will consist of a number of high-level panel discussions focused on IMO's theme for 2024: **"Navigating the future: safety first!"**, featuring prominent international speakers who will offer insight into several relevant subjects. The full programme will be available in due course.

Information on the event, including registration, hotels and the various activities, will be available soon on the official website at: <https://www.transportes.gob.es/maritimo>. Participants are invited to register in good time via the event's website. Queries about the event may be sent to wmdpe2024barcelona@transportes.gob.es.

The International Maritime Organization and the Government of Spain are grateful for your attention to this circular letter and look forward to welcoming participants to the Parallel Event in Barcelona, Spain.

ANNEX 2



The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility of the Kingdom of Spain have the honour to invite you to attend the 2024 World Maritime Day Parallel Event to be held in Barcelona, Spain from 20 to 22 October 2024.

The programme of the event will consist of a number of high-level panel discussions focused on IMO's theme for 2024: "**Navigating the future: safety first!**". As one of the most important maritime events on a global scale, the World Maritime Day Parallel Event will become a definitive stage for the international community to reflect IMO's work to enhance maritime safety and security, in tandem with the protection of the marine environment, whilst ensuring its regulatory development process safely anticipates the fast pace of technological change and innovation.

Your participation in this event will be an excellent opportunity to share and exchange information, knowledge, and experience for a better understanding of the role and responsibilities of the maritime community in respect of the new and adapted technologies and the introduction of new and alternative fuels; the role of digitalization and automation in increasingly revolutionizing the shipping industry; the pivotal role of the human element in ensuring the preparedness of seafarers to navigate through an evolving landscape of maritime challenges marked with emerging technologies, alternative energy sources and other scenarios at sea; and how international shipping and the maritime community contribute to the UN 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. Further information regarding this prestigious occasion will soon be available on the official website: <https://www.transportes.gob.es/maritimo>.

We look forward to welcoming you in Barcelona and, meanwhile, if you have any questions about the event, please contact directly the Ministry of Transport and Sustainable Mobility at wmdpe2024barcelona@transportes.gob.es. For other enquiries, you may contact IMO at ero@imo.org.

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.



Arsenio Dominguez
Secretary-General of the
International Maritime Organization



Óscar Puente
Minister for Transport and
Sustainable Mobility of Spain

