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Circular Letter No.4985  
5 March 2025

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

Subject: **Joint event ILO/IMO/ICS/ITF – Protecting seafarers against criminalization: what more can be done?**

1 The well-being of seafarers continues to be of great concern to the entire membership of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The criminalization of seafarers is a matter of concern for all those in the maritime industry. ILO and IMO have been working jointly on Guidelines on Fair Treatment of Seafarers detained in connection with alleged crimes.

2 The Secretary-General of IMO and the Director-General of ILO have the honour to invite participation in an upcoming joint event addressing the criminalization of seafarers and the need for their fair treatment. The event, jointly organized with the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF), is scheduled to take place on 16 June 2025, from 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., at IMO Headquarters, 4 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR. The event will be followed by a reception hosted by ICS and ITF. A detailed programme of the event will be issued in due course.

3 The event will be conducted in English only without interpretation and held in person, with hybrid capabilities for remote participation. In-person attendance will be limited to representatives from Member States, observer organizations (both intergovernmental and non-governmental) and the United Nations and its specialized agencies. The event will also be live-streamed on the [IMO's YouTube channel](#).

4 Delegates intending to participate are kindly requested to register via the Online Meeting Registration System (OMRS) by Monday, 15 June 2025. Further information on the registration procedures can be found in the annex to this circular letter.

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## ANNEX

### REGISTRATION AND CODE OF CONDUCT

#### Registration

Member Governments, UN agencies, IGOs and NGOs are required to provide, prior to the meeting date, the names of all the members of their delegations including Permanent Representatives and other members of Permanent Missions to IMO attending the meeting via the Online Meeting Registration System (OMRS), as advised in Circular Letter No.4336 of 5 November 2020.

Active participants are those registered as either *physical* (attending meetings at IMO Headquarters in person) or *remote-active*. They are authorized to take the floor and make interventions. Passive participants are those only able to follow proceedings remotely via live-streaming.

Remote-active participants will receive a personalized joining link via email daily before each session starts at approximately 08.30 UTC. The Zoom link is unique to the recipient and should not be shared with anyone. Accuracy of the registered email address in OMRS is crucial.

Remote-passive participants automatically receive a link, once their registration is approved, to a web stream of the session (live-streaming), which will be broadcast via the IMODOCS page. It is important to note that the option for remote-passive participation is available only if the meeting is live-streamed.

In-person participants should not join the Zoom meeting when physically present in the Main Hall or Committee Rooms, as this will have a detrimental impact on the hybrid system and reduce the number of licences available for those joining remotely.

Delegates wishing to change their participation status from in-person to remote-active or vice-versa must do so in the OMRS through their respective OMRS Delegation Coordinator(s). Subsequently, they will receive a joining link for the meeting.

Delegates attending the meeting in person who have completed the registration procedure will be issued with an electronic access card at IMO to pass through the security barrier in the IMO Headquarters.

Issue of the access card will require photographic proof of identity, e.g. passport, identity card or driving licence. Delegates may also be required to show proof of identity at any time while they are in the IMO Headquarters if requested by IMO Security. In view of the significant costs incurred in producing access cards, delegates who have previously been issued with one are kindly requested to bring it with them for reactivation.

Any matters relating to the use of the OMRS and participation in this event should be communicated to:

Registration Unit  
Meetings Support Section  
Email: [onlineregistration@imo.org](mailto:onlineregistration@imo.org)

Members of delegations will not be registered to attend the meeting without authorization from their respective OMRS Delegation Coordinator(s). Delegates whose names do not appear on the OMRS list will be asked to contact their OMRS Delegation Coordinator in order to process their authorization to attend the meeting.

Delegates are advised that the Registration Desk will be open from 08.30 UTC on Monday, 16 June 2025, when early arrival would be appreciated.

### **Remote or hybrid participation**

Delegates joining the meeting remotely are urged to use appropriate equipment and are kindly requested to wait a few seconds before starting to speak and to endeavour to speak slowly and clearly, to facilitate interpretation in other languages.

### **Code of Conduct**

Delegates, participants, attendees and guests are subject to the *Code of Conduct for Delegates, Observers and Other Participants at IMO Meetings, Events and Activities to Prevent Harassment including Sexual Harassment* (Circular Letter No.4908).

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