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Circular Letter No.4552
11 April 2022

To: All IMO Members
Intergovernmental organizations
Non-governmental organizations in consultative status

Subject: **Communication from the Government of the Federal Republic of
Germany**

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has sent the attached communication, dated 7 April 2022, with the request that it be circulated by the Organization.



Bundesrepublik Deutschland

Federal Republic of Germany



Current measures of the German flag as a consequence of the war in Ukraine

As at: 7 April 2022

Issue of endorsements of recognition:

Due to the war in Ukraine, the following rules apply with regard to the issue of endorsements of recognition for seafarers with immediate effect:

Holders of certificates of competency, maritime radio operator's certificates and certificates of proficiency for service on tankers in accordance with regulation V/1-1 and regulation V/1-2 of the Annex to the STCW Convention, which were issued by the Ukrainian shipping administration and expired on or after 1 January 2022, can apply to the German shipping administration for the issue of endorsements of recognition. If all other requirements for the issue of endorsements of recognition are met and the authenticity of the invalid documents is confirmed, the German shipping administration will issue endorsements of recognition with a validity period of a maximum of one year from the date of issue of the endorsement of recognition.

The notice that is issued together with the endorsement of recognition includes the following obligation: at the latest by the end of the day until which the validity of certificates of competency, maritime radio operator's certificates and certificates of proficiency in accordance with the Ukrainian action paper, as amended, notified to IMO because of the war in Ukraine, is extended, proof must be provided to the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH) that the validity of the certificate of competency or the maritime radio operator's certificate which the endorsement of recognition is based on or the certificate of proficiency that the endorsement of recognition is based on was extended.

This rule equally applies to holders of endorsements of recognition issued by the German shipping administration whose period of validity expired between 1 July 2021 and 31 December 2021 as a consequence of the application of the rules of the German corona action paper, as amended.

The general eligibility requirements for the issue of endorsements of recognition by the German shipping administration are available from the website of the German flag under "Recognition of foreign certificates"

(www.deutsche-flagge.de/en/competency/certificates/recognition/endorsement-of-recognition).