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Circular Letter No.4231/Add.15
12 January 2021

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

Subject: **Communication from the Government of the Republic of Italy**

The Government of the Republic of Italy has sent the attached communication, dated 11 January 2021, with the request that it be circulated by the Organization.



Ministry of Infrastructures and Transport

*Italian Coast Guard Headquarters
Safety of Navigation and
Maritime Security Department*

Rome, *date of issue*
(p.o.c. Rear Admiral UH (ITCG) Luigi GIARDINO
e-mail: segreteria.reparto6@mit.gov.it)

HE Mr. Kitack Lim
Secretary General of the
International Maritime Organization

Subject: Measures to Address Covid-19.

Dear Secretary-General Lim,

The Italian Coast Guard Headquarters presents its compliments to the International Maritime Organization and, with reference to the management of the epidemiological emergency from COVID-19 on board, is honored to inform on the following.

Stringent restrictions have been implemented, by the coastal States, and are still in place as a result of the coronavirus pandemic

In its efforts to abide by these restrictions, the Italian Coast Guard Headquarters continues to experience criticism related, in particular, to a sharp slowdown in the number of ships going into dry dock and, in some cases, the banning of access for ships.

In order to ensure the ships' safety, the Italian Coast Guard has introduced measures to verify, within the time period established by SOLAS Regulation I/10(a)(v), the condition of the bottom of the ships flying the Italian flag, as explained in Circular Letter No. 4231/Add.1 of 2nd April 2020.

In particular, in cases of proven impossibility for the ship enter dry dock, it has been decided that the in dry-dock inspection of the bottom of the ship can be postponed subject to the satisfactory result of an in-water bottom survey.

In light of the persistence of the emergency situation and its related restrictions, the above mentioned approach will continue until 31st March 2021.

We would therefore like to ask the Secretariat to kindly have this information regarding the postponement of the required bottom dry-dock inspection circulated to all member states of the IMO.

Your valuable attention to this matter is very much appreciated.

The Italian Coast Guard avails itself of this opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration.

The General Commander
Vice Admiral (ITCG) Giovanni PETTORINO

Firmato digitalmente da

GIOVANNI PETTORINO

CN = PETTORINO GIOVANNI
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dei Trasporti
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