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Circular Letter No.4232/Add.3
1 June 2020

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

Subject: **Communication from the Government of Ukraine**

The Government of Ukraine has sent the attached communication, dated 28 May 2020, with the request that it be circulated by the Organization.

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**MINISTRY OF
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OF UKRAINE**

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The International Maritime Organization

Secretary-General
H. E. Mr. Kitack Lim

Dear Mr. Lim!

On behalf of the Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine I have the honor to present my compliments to Your Excellency and to the International Maritime Organization and would like to address with the following.

Given the current situation and the introduction of the restrictive measures to prevent Covid-19 in the world and Ukraine and also considering that many companies do not have the opportunity to replace seafarers in a timely manner, in addition to the letters of the Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine dated 23.03.2020 № 890/46/14-20 and dated 13.04.2020 № 5021/46/10-20 we would like to inform here with the measures adopted and enforced by the Ukraine regarding the validity of the qualification documents of seafarers which are on a voyage now, issued on behalf of Ukraine.

Let me address to the Secretariat with the kind request to circulate submit this letter among all Member States of the International Maritime Organization.

Let me avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency and the International Maritime Organization assurances of my highest consideration and express hope for further fruitful cooperation.

Attachment: Measures adopted and enforced by Ukraine on 2 pages.

Acting Minister

Oleh YUSHCHENKO

013397 *



№1635/46/14-20 від 28.05.2020

**MEASURES, ADOPTED AND ENFORCED BY UKRAINE
WITH RESPECT TO COVID-19 COMBATING**

I. Flag State

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 disease, attendance of statutory surveys has become increasingly difficult. Furthermore, several shipyards cannot accommodate ships, for both booked and planned supervisions requiring dry docking. In view of these exceptional circumstances, in cases where surveyors, auditors and/or inspectors are not able to undertake scheduled surveys, audit and inspections due to restrictions imposed with regards to COVID-19, State Service for Maritime and River Transport of Ukraine will consider requests for extension/postponement under force majeure or unforeseen exceptional circumstances, on a case by case basis.

For the vessels which are operated on the Danube River the same approach will be applied.

II. Port State Control

No restrictions are applied.

III. Validity of Seafarer's certificates

Extension of the validity of seafarers documents beyond their expiry date:

1.1 Certificates of Competency and Certificates of Proficiency

The Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine has decided that the validity of Ukrainian Certificates of Competency (CoC) and Certificates of Proficiency (CoP) of the seafarers on board vessels expires in the period from 01.03.2020 are granted a general extension of validity up to 30.09.2020 from the date of expiry in the case when such requirements are met:

- Flag State of the vessel recognizes such extension;
- Seafarers employment agreement must be extended for the same period and on the same basis and conditions.

Additional applications to the Ukrainian authorities are not required.

At the same time, Shipowners/Operators must inform an appropriate governmental bodies of Ukraine on every case of extension of seafarer's employment via e-mail on psc.ua@marad.gov.ua, m.melnik@mtu.gov.ua. Such notification shall include: name of the shipowner/operator, name and IMO number

of the vessel, full name and position of the seafarer, scanned copies or details of seafarers documents, copy of the extended seafarer's employment.

1.2. Medical certificates

Considering this situation as a force majeure, in respect of the Ukrainian medical certificates, following provisions for urgent cases allowed by the Regulation I/9 of the STCW Convention 1978. Based on that, the Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine permits a seafarer to work without a valid medical certificate up to 30.09.2020.

It will also be acceptable if a seafarer at the earliest opportunity obtains a valid medical certificate in any country where this is possible.

1.3. Seafarers Identity Document.

The validity of Ukrainian Seafarers Identity Documents on board vessels which expire in the period from 01.03.2020 are granted general extension of validity up to 30.09.2020 from the date of expiry.

IV. Extension of maritime pilots' and pilot operators' documents.

Pilot's and Pilot Operator's certificates that expired on 1 March 2020 or later and cannot be revalidated due to exceptional circumstances resulting from COVID-19 outbreak remain valid until 30 August 2020.
