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Circular Letter No.4213/Add.3
1 April 2020

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

Subject: **Postponement of the Sub-Committee on Human Element Training and Watchkeeping and the Technical Cooperation Committee owing to the COVID-19 outbreak**

1 Further to the postponement of the joint session of the LC/LP Scientific Groups, the 107th session of the Legal Committee, the thirty-third meeting of the Editorial & Technical Group (IMSBC), the seventh meeting of the Intersessional Working Group on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships, the seventy-fifth session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee, the forty-fourth session of the Facilitation Committee, the second meeting of the IMO Expert Group on Data Harmonization, the Port symposium "A Holistic approach to standards for port operational data in maritime supply chains", and the 102nd session of the Maritime Safety Committee owing to the COVID-19 outbreak, which were announced in Circular Letters Nos.4213, 4213/Add.1 and 4213/Add.2, the purpose of this circular is to inform delegations and other attendees of the postponement of additional IMO meetings in line with previous considerations.

2 Taking into account the determination by the World Health Organization (WHO), on 11 March 2020, that the outbreak of COVID-19 is now pandemic and the decisions taken by the Government of the United Kingdom (as the host Government) as well as the governments of other IMO Member States drastically restricting international and local travel; the following determinations, as a matter of urgent necessity, have been made:

- .1 the seventh session of the Sub-Committee on Human Element Training and Watchkeeping scheduled to take place from 1 to 5 June 2020; and
- .2 the seventieth session of the Technical Cooperation Committee scheduled to take place from 15 to 18 June 2020,

are postponed until further notice.

3 The Secretary-General will continue to follow the recommendations and guidance of WHO and the Government of the United Kingdom to ensure that precautions are taken to minimize risks to delegates attending meetings at IMO Headquarters. Further updates about other meetings scheduled to take place in July will be provided as soon as possible.

4 Information regarding the rescheduling of postponed meetings will be made in good time, to allow delegations and attendees to make appropriate arrangements.

5 The Secretary-General wishes to advise that the thirty-first Extraordinary Session of the Council is in progress and is being held by correspondence, to address the disruption caused by the pandemic, for the endorsement of the urgent actions taken thus far, as well as the subsequent steps that may be necessary in the immediate future. The proceedings of this extraordinary session are available on IMODOCS and the record of decisions will be available as soon as possible.
