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Circular Letter No.4231/Add.6
15 May 2020

To: All IMO Members
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 15 May 2020, with the request that it is circulated by the Organization.

Rome, 15 May 2020
(p.o.c. Rear Admiral (ITCG) Luigi GIARDINO
e-mail: segreteria.reparto6@mit.gov.it)



**Ministry of Infrastructures and
Transport**

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

HE Mr. Kitack Lim
Secretary General of
International Maritime Organization

Subject: Measures to Address Covid-19.

Dear Secretary-General Lim,

Unprecedented and unexpected developments brought about by the rapid spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) are having a major impact on the health of the world's population.

For this reason, governments have been implementing measures to limit the spread of Covid-19, *inter alia*, by denying travel or by imposing 14 days of quarantine.

In its efforts to abide by these restrictions, the Italian Coast Guard Headquarters has been facing difficulties in carrying out its usual activities and in carrying out the processes of verifying and certifying ships.

In particular, ships are in many cases no longer in the position to be inspected and surveyed on-site and the Italian Coast Guard Headquarters is therefore granting the extension of the statutory certification in application of the relevant conventions.

Consequently, once the period of grace elapses, the Italian Coast Guard will return to normal on-site survey procedures. If this is not possible we will:

- Carry out remote survey/inspection techniques; and
- Issue a short-term certificate with validity limited to 12 (twelve) months.

We would like to ask the Secretariat to kindly disseminate this information regarding the ship's certification to all Member States of the IMO.

Your valuable attention to this matter would be very much appreciated.

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

**The General Commander
Vice Admiral (ITCG) Giovanni PETTORINO**