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Circular Letter No.4236/Add.1
24 June 2020

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

Subject: **Communication from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great
Britain and Northern Ireland**

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland sent the attached communication, dated 19 June 2020, with the request that it be circulated by the Organization.



Maritime &
Coastguard
Agency

**Permanent Representative
of the UK to the IMO
Spring Place
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SO15 1EG
United Kingdom**

Secretary-General
International Maritime Organization
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19 June 2020

Dear Secretary-General

UK Seafarer Certificates

Due to the ongoing global disruption to maritime transport and associated supporting administrative offices as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, through the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), has introduced the following measures to enable holders of UK Seafarer Certification to continue to work and support international trade:

- The issuance of temporary certification for a duration of up to 12 months for Certificates of Competency and Certificates of Equivalent Competency.
- The extension of validity to Certificates of Proficiency for Emergency, Occupation Safety and Survival Functions as defined in Chapter VI of the STCW Convention for a duration of up to 6 months.
- The extension of validity to Certificates of Proficiency for Tankers, Passenger Ships, ships subject to the IGF code and ships subject to the Polar Code as defined in Chapter V of the STCW Convention and the STCW Code for a duration of up to 12 months.
- The extension of validity to STCW GMDSS Endorsement as defined in Chapter IV/2 of the STCW Code for a duration of up to 12 months.
- Further extensions may be granted if the current disruption persists.

Further information is available in Marine Information Note (MIN) 611 and its associated guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/min-611-mf-guidance-and-information-to-follow-in-the-event-of-covid-19-outbreak-impacting-uk-seafarer-services>



HM Coastguard

SUPPORTING



We would be most grateful if the Secretariat could assist in the dissemination of this letter to IMO member states, NGOs, IGOs, and other interested parties through the usual way.

We thank you for all your efforts and take this opportunity to reaffirm our commitment and support through this challenging time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Katy Ware', with a stylized, cursive script.

Katy Ware
Permanent Representative of the UK to the IMO
Director of Maritime Safety and Standards
