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Circular Letter No.4281
27 April 2020

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

Subject: **Communication from the Government of the United States of America**

The Government of the United States of America has sent the attached communication, dated 17 April 2020, with the request that it is circulated by the Organization.

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security



United States
Coast Guard

Commandant
United States Coast Guard

2703 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20593-7509
Staff Symbol: CG-5PS
Phone: (202) 372-1351
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16707/IMO

17 April 2020

The Honorable Kitack Lim
Secretary General
International Maritime Organization
4 Albert Embankment
London SE1 7SR
United Kingdom

Dear Secretary General,

The United States commends the efforts by IMO to ensure critical commerce by sea is not hindered beyond what is necessary during this challenging time, recognizing the vital efforts by ships and mariners to keep the supply chain active and robust during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The United States Coast Guard has established guidance and recommendations to assist ship owners and operators, mariners and port facilities as we work through this pandemic. This information is provided through Coast Guard Marine Safety Information Bulletins (MSIBs) which are publically available at the following web address:

<https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/>

Please note this website shows all MSIBs issued by the Coast Guard, however, those specific to the COVID-19 pandemic are in year 2020 and identified by their title.

We respectfully request this letter be made available through a Circular Letter to all Member States, NGOs and IGOs, in order for interested parties to obtain the most up to date information.

We thank you in advance and take this opportunity to assure you of our cooperation with IMO as we collectively work through this difficult time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. G. Lantz".

J. G. Lantz
Director
Commercial Regulations and Standards
U.S. Coast Guard, COMDT (CG5-PS)