



IMO AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL BRAVERY AT SEA 2015

Thursday, 19 November 2015 at 6 p.m.



4 Albert Embankment
London SE1 7SR
United Kingdom

Tel +44 (0)20 7735 7611
Fax +44 (0)20 7587 3210
Email info@imo.org

www.imo.org



Printed by Micropress Printers, Suffolk, UK using vegetable based inks and with FSC accreditation.



The 2015 IMO Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION

Address by IMO Secretary-General

Mr. Koji Sekimizu

PRESENTATION CEREMONY

CERTIFICATES OF COMMENDATION

(listed in the alphabetical order of the country nominating)

- Able Seaman Vicente Somera, crew member of the **M/V Lars Maersk**, nominated by Australia for his role in rescuing, in treacherous sea conditions, gale force winds and total darkness and after three challenging hours, a hypothermic sailor who had sustained several life-threatening falls attempting to repair an oil leak on his sailing vessel and who had jumped overboard in an attempt to retrieve a messenger line which had been thrown to him;
- Skipper Jean-Claude Van Rymenant and the crew of the rescue launch SNS 129 **Notre Dame de la Garoupe**, volunteers at Saint Martin Station, National Maritime Rescue Association (SNSM), nominated by France, for their arduous and relentless attempts to rescue, during the passage of Cyclone Gonzalo, a couple and a baby aboard the vessel **Voyage II**, which eventually struck reefs. After evacuating the family and despite the total loss of the **Notre Dame de la Garoupe**, the volunteer crew continued to assist other ships which had grounded on the shore;
- Father Ilia Kartoziya (posthumously), Abbot of the Monastery of Saint David the Builder, Patriarchate of Georgia, passenger on the ro-ro/passenger ship **Norman Atlantic**, nominated by Georgia, for sacrificing his own life whilst helping other passengers evacuate the ship, after its car deck had caught fire in extreme weather conditions and poor visibility;

The 2015 IMO Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

- Lieutenant John Hess, Lieutenant Matthew Vanderslice, Aviation Maintenance Technician Derrick Suba and Aviation Survival Technician Evan Staph, crew members of the rescue helicopter CG-6033, US Coast Guard Air Station Cape Cod, nominated by the United States of America, for rescuing, in a severe winter storm with hurricane warnings, two persons on board the sailing vessel **Sedona**, which had suffered engine failure with risk of capsizing or sinking; and
- Lieutenant Scott Black, Lieutenant Jesse C. Keyser and Aviation Maintenance Technician Michael Spraggins, crew members of the rescue helicopter CG-6531, US Coast Guard Air Station San Francisco, nominated by the Government of the United States of America, in recognition of the important part they played in the same rescue operation carried out by the recipient of the Award.

RECIPIENT OF THE 2015 AWARD

MEDAL AND CERTIFICATE

- Aviation Survival Technician Christopher Leon, crew member of the rescue helicopter CG-6531, US Coast Guard Air Station San Francisco, nominated by the Government of the United States of America, for the display of courage, strength and stamina in rescuing, at very high risk to his own life, four people from the sinking ocean rower **Britannia**, in gale force winds and darkness.

RECEPTION

The ceremony will be followed by a reception in the Delegates' Lounge.
