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Circular Letter No.4949  
16 December 2024

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

Subject: **IMO/ITLOS Workshop**

1 The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization and the President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) have the honour to invite participation in the forthcoming joint Workshop, scheduled to take place in conjunction with the 112th session of the Legal Committee (LEG 112), on **28 March 2025**, at 2 p.m. at IMO Headquarters, 4 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR.

2 The Workshop will feature discussions on the ITLOS Advisory Opinion on Climate Change and the Ocean, essential aspects of ITLOS case law and procedures related to the arrest of vessels, as well as fraudulent registration and due diligence in ship registration. Participants will have the opportunity to take part in Q&A sessions. The provisional programme for the Workshop is set out in annex.

3 The Workshop will be open to all delegates registered via the IMO Online Meeting Registration System (OMRS) to attend LEG 112. It will be in English only and live-streamed from 2 p.m. at <https://streaming.imo.org/> for those who are not registered to attend LEG 112. A reception will follow the workshop.

4 Participants are subject to the Code of Conduct for Delegates, Observers and Other Participants at IMO Meetings, Events and Activities to Prevent Harassment including Sexual Harassment ([Circular Letter No.4908](#)).

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**ANNEX**  
**IMO/ITLOS WORKSHOP**  
**PRIVISONAL PROGRAMME**

14:00-14:10	<b>Opening remarks</b>
	<i>Mr. Arsenio Dominguez, Secretary-General, IMO</i>
14:10-14:30	<b>Keynote speech: The ITLOS Advisory Opinion on Climate Change and the Ocean</b>  <i>Mr. Tomas Heidar, President, ITLOS</i>
14:30 – 14:45	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
14:45 – 15:30	<b>Panel 1: Arrest of vessels: Key aspects of ITLOS case law and procedures</b>  Moderator: <i>Ms. Nihan Unlu, Deputy Director/Head, Legal Affairs Office, IMO</i>
14:45 – 15:00	The right of the flag State to make claims in respect of arrested vessels: the concept of "ship as a unit"  <i>Judge Liesbeth Lijnzaad, ITLOS</i>
15:00 – 15:15	Procedural aspects: provisional measures and prompt release of vessels and crews  <i>Ms. Ximena Hinrichs, Registrar, ITLOS</i>
15:15 – 15:30	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 17:30	<b>Panel 2: Registration of vessels</b>  Moderator: <i>Judge David Attard, ITLOS</i>
16:00 – 16:15	Nationality and registration of ships  <i>Judge Caracciolo, ITLOS</i>
16:15 – 16:30	Fraudulent registration and fraudulent registries of ships  <i>Ms. Dorota Lost-Sieminska, Director Legal Affairs and External Relations Division, IMO</i>
16:30 – 16:45	Due diligence in ship registration - Member States' perspective  <i>(TBC)</i>
16:45 – 17:15	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
17:30	Reception