ORGANISATION MARITIME INTERNATIONALE

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Lettre circulaire No 4255/Add.1
8 juillet 2020

Destinataires : Tous les Membres de l'OMI
Organisations intergouvernementales
Organisations non gouvernementales bénéficiant du statut consultatif

Objet : **Communication du Gouvernement du Royaume de Belgique**

Le Gouvernement du Royaume de Belgique a envoyé la communication ci-jointe*, datée du 7 juillet 2020, en demandant qu'elle soit diffusée par l'Organisation.

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* En anglais seulement.

DES TRANSPORTS MARITIMES DURABLES AU SERVICE D'UNE PLANÈTE DURABLE

FPS MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT
DG SHIPPING

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International Maritime Organisation
Attn. Mr Kitack Lim, Secretary-General
Albert Embankment, 4
SE1 7SR London
United Kingdom

Contact person	**Number of contact**	**Date**
Els Claeys Els.claeys@mobilit.fgov.be	+32 2 277 35 26	07/07/2020

Subject: Seafarers are key workers

Dear Mr Secretary-General,

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact of the crisis on seafarers, Belgium has taken measures as a flag state and as a port state to facilitate crew changes, the transit of seafarers and access to medical care for seafarers. Belgium duly recognizes the central role of seafarers, not only in the maritime sector but also in the world's economy.

In accordance with the guidelines issued by the International Maritime Organisation and the European Commission, Belgium allows seafarers to travel, to be in transit, to join a ship or to return back home.

It would be appreciated if you could bring this to the attention of the IMO Member States and Associate Members and add Belgium to the list of countries that have designated seafarers as key workers.

Yours sincerely,

Eugeen Van Craeyvelt
Director-General