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

Subject: **Ukraine crisis – UNHCR Position on Returns to Ukraine**

1 The Ukraine crisis has severely affected the operation of shipping and working conditions in the global shipping sector, resulting in a humanitarian and safety crisis.

2 UNHCR issued a "Position on Returns to Ukraine", set out in the annex. Noting that the situation in Ukraine is volatile and may remain uncertain for some time, UNHCR calls on States to suspend the forcible return of nationals and former habitual residents of Ukraine. The non-return advisory contained in the position is to remain in place until such time as the security situation in Ukraine has significantly improved.

3 The Secretary-General invites all Parties to consider and apply, as appropriate, the attached guidance, given the relevance to the movement of Ukrainian seafarers.
