



MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

JUN 30 2022

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Series of 2022

TO : All Shipowners/ Bareboat Charterers/ Ship Operators/ Ship Managers/ Shipmasters, Officers and Crew of Philippine-Registered Overseas Ships, Licensed Manning Agencies, Recognized Organizations, and Concerned Government Agencies

SUBJECT : INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION (IMO) CIRCULAR LETTERS AS OF 15 JUNE 2022

Notice is hereby given on the following attached IMO Circular Letters published as of 15 June 2022:

1. **Circular Letter No. 4585 (10 June 2022) - *Communication from the Government of the State of Libya*** – Advisory on the **cancellation of a previously Declared Restricted Area** due to ongoing Military Operations under the Navigational Warning (225/2016) relating to Area III along part of the Libyan Eastern coastline (as illustrated in the attached image). Therefore, *navigation of ships is now permitted within the said area and Maritime Trading and derna port are now ready to receive any kind of vessels and is absolutely safe.*
2. **Circular Letter No. 4583 (8 June 2022) - *Communication from the Government of Denmark*** – To inform all IMO Member States and the ships sailing under their respective flags in the North Sea of the **forthcoming project for the Energy Island**, an artificial island in the Danish Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) in the North Sea. In order to maintain the safety and efficiency of traffic during the construction phase, the latest information about the ongoing construction activities and location of the work areas are made available in advance via Notice to Mariners and Electronical Nautical Charts (ENC).
3. **Circular Letter No. 4575 (31 May 2022) - *Multi-country monkeypox outbreak in non-endemic countries*** – To disseminate information and guidance on the monkeypox disease, *a virus transmitted to humans from animals with symptoms similar to those seen in smallpox patients, but is clinically less severe*, based on the recommendations by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Related updates including the list of endemic and non-endemic countries with monkeypox **cases as of 29 May 2022**, can be found at the following link:
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/disease-outbreak-news/item/2022-DON388>.



MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

4. **Circular Letter No. 4577 (30 May 2022) - *Communication from the Government of the Russian Federation*** – Urgent measure to **alter the route of the humanitarian maritime corridor in the Black Sea** due to safety considerations **starting from 27 May 2022** which will stretch for 139 miles and will be 3-mile wide, operating daily from 8 a.m. till 7 p.m. (UTC+3).
5. **Circular Letter No. 4573 (24 May 2022) - *Maritime security threat posed by free floating sea mines in the Black Sea Region*** – IMO's advice, updates and links to external resources for Member States, flag States, shipping and seafarers regarding free floating sea mines in the Black Sea region due to the continuing conflict in Ukraine, can be found at the following link: <https://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/HotTopics/Pages/MaritimeSecurityandSafetyintheBlackSeaandSeaofAzov.aspx>.
6. **Circular Letter No. 4561 (18 May 2022) - *Pledging for FSO Safer*** – Invitation to all interested parties and relevant maritime stakeholders to pledge generously to **international efforts aimed at preventing and preparing for a possible oil spill from the deteriorating FSO (floating storage and offloading unit) Safer**, which is moored off the coast of Yemen, with an estimated 1.17 million barrels of light crude oil on board. Particularly, to support the emergency phase of the operation which could take up to 18 months.
7. **Circular Letter No. 4567 (13 May 2022) - *Communication from the Government of Ukraine*** – Urgent notification regarding the invasion of Russian occupation troops to the territory of the Berdiansk Nyzhnii Lighthouse facility on 12 May 2022 at 05:00 (UTC+2), whereby committing the forced switch-off of the equipment of the **Ukrainian Berdiansk NAVTEX Coastal Station**. In lieu of this, the State Hydrographic Service of Ukraine has issued a broadcast by the Odesa NAVTEX Station Coastal Warning 11/5/22 to properly inform the seafarers of the said incident, as well as listing the services of the Berdiansk Station as **temporarily suspended**.
8. **Circular Letter No. 4560 (6 May 2022) - *Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974;***
Amendments to the Protocol of 1978 relating to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (1978 SOLAS Protocol);
Amendments to the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk (IGC Code);
Amendments to the International Code of Safety for Ships Using Gases or other Low-Flashpoint Fuels (IGF Code);
Amendments to the International Code on the Enhanced Programme of Inspections during Surveys of Bulk Carriers and Oil Tankers, 2011 (2011 ESP Code); and,
Amendments to the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (IBC Code) – The 105th



MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

session of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 105) held on 20 to 29 April 2022, approved draft amendments to the SOLAS, 1974; the 1978 SOLAS Protocol; IGC Code; IGF Code; and the 2011 ESP Code, for circulation with a view to adoption at MSC 106 on 2 to 11 November 2022.

Likewise, MSC 102 (13 to 22 May 2020) with concurrent approval by the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 77) held on 22 to 26 November 2021), approved draft amendments to the IBC Code, with a view to adoption at MEPC 78 (6 to 10 June 2022) for entry into force on 1 July 2024.

9. **Circular Letter No. 4555 (5 May 2022) - *Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) Database on National Facilitation Committees*** – Announcement on the newly developed database in the Facilitation Module of **GISIS**, as approved by FAL 42, to upload and update information regarding national facilitation committees and programmes for sharing.
10. **Circular Letter No. 4558 (4 May 2022) - *Communication from the Government of the Republic of Poland*** – Notification on the new provisions regarding the **Polish register of yachts** and other watercraft of less than 24m in length and legal requirements for sea-going yachts flying the Polish flag.
11. **Circular Letter No. 4557 (4 May 2022) - *Communication from the Government of Ukraine*** – By the Order of the Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine dated 28 April 2022 No.256, in view of the ongoing Russian full-scale armed aggression and the temporary occupation of certain parts of Ukraine's territory by Russian armed forces, the **seaports of Berdiansk, Kherson, Mariupol and Skadovsk** are announced as **closed** until the resumption of control over them by Ukraine.
12. **Circular Letter No. 4556 (4 May 2022) - *Communication from the Government of Ukraine*** – To provide information on the adoption of Order N° 255-r "*Certain issues of ensuring the safety of navigation in the waters of Ukrainian ports in the Danube region and of the rail transportation*", which provides for the allocation of funds of the state budget for the purposes of compensation for possible damage caused as a result of Russia's armed aggression and hostilities against Ukraine.
13. **Circular Letter No. 4552 (4 May 2022) - *Communication from the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany*** – Current measures with regard to the issue of endorsements of recognition for seafarers with immediate effect, as a consequence of the war in Ukraine. Wherein the German shipping administration **will issue endorsements of recognition with a validity period of one year** from the date of issue of the endorsement of recognition, provided that the general eligibility requirements are met and the authenticity of the invalid documents is confirmed.



MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

14. **Circular Letter No. 4551 (11 April 2022) - *Ratification of the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 – Communication from the Secretary-General*** – Invitation to take action to achieve the entry into force of the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 in order to meet the goal set up in the 2019 Torremolinos Declaration, to further protect resources and contribute to sustainable, legal and transparent fisheries, whilst caring for the marine environment, as well as providing fishers with better working and living conditions.
15. **Circular Letter No. 4550 (11 April 2022) - *Communication from the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica*** – Urgent call to take direct immediate action and efforts to speed up the execution of establishing humanitarian corridors, in order to ensure the safety of seafarers by allowing them to leave the conflict zone immediately, relative to the indiscriminate attack and destruction by Russian armed forces, on a motor vessel AZBURG IMO number 9102899 Call Sign J7BG6 MMSI number 325116200, while at berth in Mariupol, Ukraine.
16. **Circular Letter No. 4548 (7 April 2022) - *Communication from the Government of the Russian Federation*** – Confirmation of the full validity of certificates of insurance or other financial securities in respect of liability, including “Blue Cards” issued by Russian insurance companies in compliance with the requirements of international conventions.
17. **Circular Letter No. 4545 (5 April 2022) - *2021 amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization*** – The IMO Secretary-General presents the amendments to Articles 16, 17, 18, 19(b) and 81 of the IMO Convention adopted on 8 December 2021 by the Assembly at its thirty-second session through resolution A.1152(32), urging Member States of their early acceptance, with the goal of entry into force of these amendments by 2025.
18. **Circular Letter No. 4220/Add.14 (4 April 2022) - *Update on the status of the International Maritime Organization Headquarters building and telecommuting arrangements due to the COVID-19 pandemic*** – Information that IMO's host government (United Kingdom) has ended all COVID-19 restrictions on 24 February 2022 thus, starting 28 February 2022, the IMO Headquarters building at 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR is now fully open and accessible for advance appointments by Member States, international organizations and other interested persons. Whereas, the programme of remote IMO meetings as stated in document PROG/130 of 16 December 2021 are expected to continue in remote mode until the end of July 2022.
19. **Circular Letter No. 4524/Add.2 (31 March 2022) - *Ukraine crisis – Harmonization of PSC activities*** – Memoranda of Understanding on Port



MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

State Control issued by the *Indian Ocean, Paris, and Tokyo*, as guidance on the repatriation of seafarers due to the situation in Ukraine.

20. **Circular Letter No. 4524/Add.3 (28 March 2022) - *Armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine – Information Reporting Form for Stranded Ships and advice and updates related to maritime security in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov*** – IMO's Advice and updates for Member States, Flag States, shipping and seafarers regarding Maritime Security and Safety in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov regions, with links to external resources and the online form to report ships stranded in Ukraine ports and waters.
21. **Circular Letter No. 4542 (25 March 2022) - *Communication from Japan on the issuance of electronic ship certificates*** – Information on certificates under International Conventions, to be issued electronically by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan from **1st April 2022 onwards**, with a unique identification number (ID) of 20 digits, quick response code (QR-Code) and URL, for authentication. Existing conventional certificates without the QR code, IAD and URL will still be valid after this notification.
22. **Circular Letter No. 4540 (22 March 2022) - *Communication from the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau*** – Announcement on the enactment of operations of the International Ships Registry of Guinea-Bissau, following the adoption of a pertinent Governmental Decision.

Copy of the Circular Letters may be viewed at or downloaded from <https://marina.gov.ph/marina-advisory-flag-state-administration-advisory/>.

Attention is therefore invited for all Philippine overseas shipping companies, shipowners, and other concerned maritime entities to observe any action/s you may deem appropriate.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.

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