



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

MARINA ADVISORY NO.: 2023-23

Series of 2023

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 21 AUGUST 2023

Notice is hereby given on the following attached IMO Circular Letters published as of 21 August 2023:

1. **Circular Letter No. 4722 (12 May 2023) - *Communication from the Government of the United Arab Emirates*** – To circulate the position of the United Arab Emirates concerning the draft 2023 IMO Strategy on the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from international shipping, with Reference No. MOEI/OUT/2023/1225 dated 28/04/2023, wherein the UAE is committed to supporting multilateral processes aimed at strengthening global cooperation to tackle the critical issues in the current development agenda.
2. **Circular Letter No. 4724 (24 May 2023) - *Communication from the Government of Ukraine*** – To bring attention to the continued illegal acts of the Russian Federation in the waters of the Black Sea, the Sea of Azov and in the Kerch Strait, as well as unlawful intrusion into the operation of the navigational and hydrographic support of shipping in the aforesaid marine areas, committed in violation of rules of international maritime law, mandatory IMO instruments, international guidelines in the mentioned field and the Ukrainian legislation.
3. **Circular Letter No. 4690/Rev.1 (31 May 2023) - *IMO Ship Identification Number Format Extension Impact Assessment Survey*** – Invitation to participate in the impact assessment survey, to help in determining to determine any possible implications to stakeholders and sectors across the maritime community of an extension on the number of digits to the IMO ship identification number format. Those interested in participating in the survey may visit <https://forms.office.com/r/5b8JJBfjnm>.
4. **Circular Letter No. 4728 (8 June 2023) - *Communication from the Government of the Russian Federation*** – The official statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation of 6th June 2023, regarding the

destruction of the Kakhova Hydroelectric Power Plant by the Ukrainian armed forces where it represents a terrorist act directed against purely civilian infrastructure, which already led to a devastating humanitarian and environmental disaster.

5. **Circular Letter No. 4241/Add.11 (12 June 2023) - *Communication from the Government of the Republic of Croatia*** – To inform on the termination of all extraordinary measures resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic in relation to seafarers holding Croatian certificates and documents.
6. **Circular Letter No. 4731 (14 June 2023) - *Communication from the Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America*** – Invitation for other governments to consider becoming a party to the Agreement developed by the UK, United States, France and Canada concerning the Shipwrecked Vessel RMS Titanic which sank on 15 April 1912 during its maiden voyage in the waters of the northwest Atlantic Ocean after colliding with an iceberg, about 375 nm southeast of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

The Agreement entered into force for the UK and the US in 2019. Since then, the UK and US have worked together to encourage other nations to sign the Agreement to ensure a standardised, international approach to preserving the wreck site. The UK and US stand ready to provide guidance and assistance to any government with an interest in acceding to the Agreement.

7. **Circular Letter No. 4730 (12 June 2023) - *Communication from the Government of the Republic of Cyprus*** – The Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC) Larnaca of the Republic of Cyprus issued relevant advisory Navigational Warning-164/23, as a response to the Turkish NAVTEX NW-0486/23 (FA:76) issued on 17 May 2023, for it was issued illegally within Cyprus' Search and Rescue (SAR) boundaries without notification and acceptance by JRCC Larnaca, presenting serious safety and security risks which must be terminated immediately.
8. **Circular Letter No. 4748 (19 July 2023) - *Communication from the Government of Ukraine*** – To transmit the official letter of Mr. Vasyl SHKURAKOV, Acting Minister for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development of Ukraine dated 18 July 2023 Nr. 6420/46/14-23, on the measures implemented by Ukraine aimed at unblocking the international shipping in the north-western part of the Black Sea.
9. **Circular Letter No. 4754 (24 July 2023) - *Update on the 2023 World Maritime Day Parallel Event*** – Pursuant to a decision of the IMO Council, at its 129th session held from 17 to 21 July 2023, to rescind the decision to accept the offer made by the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the World Maritime Day Parallel Event in 2023, which was scheduled to take place in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 23 to 26 October 2023, the World Maritime Day Parallel Event will not be celebrated in 2023.

10. **Circular Letter No. 4743 (28 July 2023) - Amendments to Protocol I of MARPOL** – MEPC 80 (3 to 7 July 2023) considered and approved draft amendments to the below, with a view to adoption at MEPC 81.

PROTOCOL I – PROVISIONS CONCERNING REPORTS ON INCIDENTS INVOLVING HARMFUL SUBSTANCES

Article V

Reporting procedures

- 1 The following new paragraph 3 is inserted after existing paragraph 2:

"In case of the loss of freight container(s), the report required by article II (1) (b) shall be made in accordance with the provisions of SOLAS regulations V/31 and V/32."

11. **Circular Letter No. 4762 (10 August 2023) - Communication from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia** – The Transport General Authority of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia requested to circulate the attached communication regarding their commitment to maritime sustainability, whereby to facilitate this, a Sustainable Maritime Industry Conference in Jeddah will be hosted at the beginning of September this year, more information about which can be found at saudi-smic.com.

12. **Circular Letter No. 4764 (17 August 2023) - Communication from the Government of the Russian Federation** – The official comment by the Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova of 5th August 2023 strongly condemning the Ukrainian terrorist attack against the Russian civilian vessel "Sig" near the Kerch strait on the night of 4-5 August 2023.

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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