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Circular Letter No.4916
30 August 2024

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

Subject: **M/T SOUNION – URGENT NOTICE**

The Government of Greece has requested the Organization to circulate the attached as an urgent notice.

ANNEX



**HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF MARITIME AFFAIRS AND INSULAR POLICY
HELLENIC COAST GUARD**

Piraeus, 29th August 2024
Ref. No.: 2060.0/ 61470 /2024

URGENT NOTICE BY GREECE

SUBJECT: M/T "SOUNION", IMO 9312145

The Greek-flagged Oil Tanker "SOUNION", IMO 9312145, was attacked on 21 August 2024 by projectiles, while sailing 72 n.m. west of Yemen's port of Hodeidah in the Red Sea, resulting to loss of engine power.

After the first attack, on 22 August 2024, the ship was evacuated by its crew (25 seafarers) and anchored between Yemen and Eritrea. No death or injury of the crew was reported. The crew was transferred safely to Djibouti by a naval asset of the EU operation "EUNAVFOR ASPIDES".

Following a second attack, the vessel has been on fire in at least five locations on the main deck since 23 August. The continuing fire on board has been confirmed on 28 August by EUNAVFOR ASPIDES.

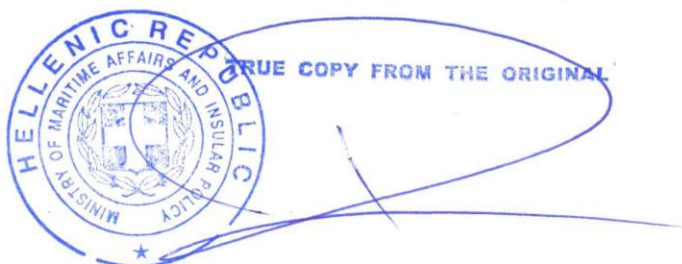
According to a satellite image obtained evening hours of 29 August 2024 by the Satellite Services of European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), a potential spill of about 2.2 n.m. length has been detected. The position of the oil spill matches with the location of the ship.

Under the said circumstances, the condition of the tanker, which carries 150,000 tons of crude oil, poses a serious environmental hazard for the Red Sea marine environment.

Greece urges all nations and all actors involved to assist in preventing the environmental hazard and resolving the situation the soonest possible.

This information is submitted pursuant to Article 198 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

It is kindly requested to disseminate the present notice to all IMO Member States.



THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR SHIPPING

**REAR ADMIRAL H.C.G.
LAGADIANOS NIKOLAOS**