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Circular Letter No.3558
14 July 2015

To: All IMO Members
Intergovernmental organizations
Non-governmental organizations in consultative status

Subject: **World Maritime Day events at IMO:
Symposium on "Shipping's future needs people: Is global maritime
education and training on course?" and open mornings for students**

1 Further to Circular Letter No.3527 of 16 February 2015, and as part of the 2015 World Maritime Day celebration, the Secretary-General has the honour to invite attendance at the Symposium on "Shipping's future needs people: Is global maritime education and training on course?", which has been scheduled to take place from 12.45 p.m. on Thursday, 24 September 2015 at IMO Headquarters, 4 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR, United Kingdom.

2 The Symposium, to be conducted in English only, is open to attendees from Member States and IGOs/NGOs in consultative status with the Organization, the media and other invitees on the basis of the capacity of Committee Room 9. Member States are also strongly encouraged to invite their officer trainee cadets to attend the Symposium; the wearing of their uniforms is most welcome at all World Maritime Day events they attend.

3 The tentative programme for the Symposium, with invited speakers and session chairmen, is attached in the annex, but may be subject to change. After the event, the presentations made at the Symposium will be posted on the IMO public website.

4 The Symposium will be followed by the annual World Maritime Day reception which all registered participants of the Symposium are invited to attend.

5 The Secretary-General also has the honour to remind Member States that, on 22 and 23 September 2015 (9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.), the Organization will be hosting two open mornings, the first day for primary and the second day for secondary school students, at IMO Headquarters to promote the 2015 World Maritime Day theme, namely "Maritime education and training". Member States' officer trainee cadets taking part in the Symposium are also encouraged to attend and serve as role models for those students considering a career at sea.

Registration for the Symposium

6 Member Governments, IGOs and NGOs are required to provide, prior to the Symposium date, the names of those intending to participate in the Symposium, via the Online Meeting Registration System (OMRS) as advised in Circular Letter No.3463 of 14 July 2014, to facilitate their entry into the building and to the Main Hall.

7 Once they have completed the registration procedure, attendees will be issued, upon arrival at IMO, with an electronic access card to pass through the security barrier in the IMO building. Issue of the access card will require photographic proof of identity, e.g. passport, identity card or driving licence. Attendees may also be required to show proof of identity at any time while they are in the Headquarters building, if requested to do so by IMO Security. In view of the significant costs incurred in producing access cards, attendees who have previously been issued with one are kindly requested to bring it with them for reactivation.

Any matters relating to the use of the OMRS should be communicated to:

Registration Unit
Meeting Services and Interpretation Section
Email: onlineregistration@imo.org

8 No attendees will be registered to attend the Symposium without authorization from their OMRS Delegation Coordinator. Attendees whose names appear in the OMRS will be issued with the above-mentioned access card. Attendees whose names are not on the OMRS list will be requested to contact their OMRS Delegation Coordinator in order to process their authorization to attend the Symposium. However, should Member States wish their officer trainee cadets to attend the open mornings and/or the Symposium, a list of names emailed to ero@imo.org prior to the events will suffice to allow them entry into the building.

9 Attendees are advised that the Registration Desk will be open for registration from 11 a.m. on 24 September 2015, when early arrival would be of assistance.

Procedure for visa applications

10 With a view to facilitating visa applications by those attendees who require United Kingdom entry visas, the Procedure governing the support by IMO for visa applications is attached.

ANNEX

World Maritime Day Symposium

**Shipping's future needs people: Is global maritime education and training on course?
International Maritime Organization, 12.45 p.m. – 5.15 p.m., 24 September 2015**

Provisional programme

11.00	Registration
12.45	Opening address Mr. Koji Sekimizu, Secretary-General, IMO
13.00 – 14.15	Session 1: Opportunities for the young generation in the maritime industry
	Moderator: Mr. Rajaish Bajpae, Non-Executive Chairman, Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement
13.00 – 13.15	Ways and means to attract young people to maritime professions Professor Jingjing Xu, Associate Dean, Research, Faculty of Business, Plymouth University
13.15 – 13.30	Career opportunities in the shore-based shipping sector Mr. Jonathan Williams, General Manager, FONASBA
13.30 – 13.45	Integration of women in the maritime sector Mrs. Maria Dixon, former President, WISTA-UK (2008-2014) and Managing Director, ISM Shipping Solutions Ltd.
13.45 – 14.00	Education for future generations [TBC]
14.00 – 14.15	Panel Q&A
14.15 – 14.30	<i>Break</i>
14:30 – 15:30	Session 2: Seafaring as a profession
	Moderator: Captain Ian McNaught, Deputy Master, Trinity House
14.30 – 14.45	Recognition and enhancement of the image of seafaring as a profession Mr. Barry Bryant, Director General, Seafarers UK

14.45 – 15.00	Contribution and role of seafarers to the global economy Mr. Branko Berlan, Accredited Representative to IMO, International Transport Workers' Federation
15.00 – 15.15	Career progression opportunities in the industry Mrs. Faye Carson, Group Director, Human Resources, V.Group
15.15 – 15.30	Panel Q&A
15.30 – 16.00	<i>Break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Session 3: Developing seafarer skills through quality maritime education and training
	Moderator: Captain Kuba Szymanski, Secretary General, InterManager
16.00 – 16.15	Can company strategies enhance competence? Capt. Pradeep Chawla, Managing Director, QHSE and Training, Anglo-Eastern Group
16.15 – 16.30	Should monitoring of maritime education and training be more robust? Mr. Takeshi Nakazawa, Secretary-General, International Association of Maritime Universities
16.30 – 16.45	Strategies for the development and expansion of maritime education and training Dr. Olof Lindén, Director of Research & PhD Program, Professor (Nippon Foundation Chair), World Maritime University
16.45 – 17.00	Panel Q&A
17.00 – 17.15	Concluding remarks Mr. Koji Sekimizu, Secretary-General, IMO
17.15	Closure of Symposium

PROCEDURES GOVERNING THE SUPPORT BY IMO OF VISA APPLICATIONS

Delegates invited by the Organization, and who require United Kingdom entry visas, should, in the first instance, apply for a visa at the nearest British Consulate or Embassy and obtain reference numbers. The necessary documentation (such as copy of the IMO programme of meetings (usually issued during December/January each year); the original and relevant IMO official letter of invitation (usually issued some six months prior to the time the meeting is to convene at IMO); nomination letter and note verbale from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) must accompany such visa applications.

Delegates must be nominated by the Ministry of Transport (or any other competent Ministry) or the National Maritime Administration. The nomination letter should be taken to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to prepare a note verbale to the British Embassy/High Commission.

If, upon following the above procedures, the delegates still have visa problems, then either the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Transport or the National Maritime Administration should communicate, on letterhead, the following details to the Head, External Relations Office, requesting visa assistance and communicating the reasons, given by the British Embassy/High Commission, why visas have been refused or may be refused.

- i First Name:
Surname:
Profession:
Date of birth:
Place of birth:
Type of passport:
Passport No:
Place of issue:
Date of issue:
Valid until:
Visa reference number:
Date and place of visa application:
- ii Purpose of visit:
- iii Duration of anticipated stay in the United Kingdom:

This exercise must be undertaken **at least six weeks** before the date on which the meeting is to take place to enable the Organization to support the visa application accordingly and the visa to be issued in good time*.

* Request for visa assistance should be sent to IMO by fax at +44 (0)20 7587 3210 or by email at: visa@imo.org