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**THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

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**MESSAGE ON THE DAY OF THE SEAFARER**

**25 June 2016**

The world is now embarking on carrying out twin plans for the future that have the potential to transform our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change. Both can be advanced through actions of the shipping industry, giving added meaning to this year's commemoration of the Day of the Seafarer.

By helping keep the world's people clothed, fed and housed, seafarers have the potential to drive economic growth that is socially inclusive and environmentally sound.

At the same time, we must ensure that seafarers themselves benefit from the Sustainable Development Goals. Their work can be dangerous and difficult. At sea for up to a year, they may face loneliness, isolation and exploitation. They deserve appreciation for their efforts and compensation for their labour.

On this Day of the Seafarer, let us advance the work of those who make shipping possible in a way that promotes our global vision of a life of dignity and opportunity for all.