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Circular Letter No.4213/Add.1
12 March 2020

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

Subject: **Postponement of the thirty-third meeting of the Editorial & Technical Group (IMSBC), the seventh meeting of the Intersessional Working Group on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships and the seventy-fifth session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee due to the COVID-19 outbreak**

1 Further to the postponement of the joint session of the LC/LP Scientific Groups and the 107th session of the Legal Committee due to the COVID-19 outbreak, which were announced in Circular Letter No.4213, the purpose of this circular is to inform delegations and other attendees of the postponement of additional IMO meetings in line with previous considerations.

2 Taking into account the increase of cases worldwide; the continuing difficulties for some delegates from IMO Member States travelling from abroad to attend IMO meetings; and the determination by the World Health Organization (WHO), on 11 March 2020, that the outbreak is now pandemic, the following determinations, as a matter of urgent necessity, have been made:

- .1 the thirty-third meeting of the Editorial & Technical (E&T) Group (IMSBC), scheduled to take place from 23 to 27 March 2020, is postponed until further notice;
- .2 the seventh meeting of the Intersessional Working Group on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships, scheduled to take place from 23 to 27 March 2020, is postponed until further notice; and
- .3 the seventy-fifth session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee, scheduled to take place from 30 March to 3 April 2020, is postponed until further notice.

3 The Secretary-General will be consulting with Member States, and in particular Members of the Council, on these actions and any others (i.e. additional postponements) required in the interest of public health and safety. The Secretary-General will continue to follow the recommendations and guidance of WHO and the Government of the United Kingdom to ensure that precautions are taken to minimize risks to delegates attending meetings at IMO Headquarters.

Further updates about other meetings scheduled to take place in April will be provided as soon as possible.

4 Information regarding the rescheduling of postponed meetings will be made in good time, to allow delegations and attendees to make appropriate arrangements.
