Circular Letter No. 4281
27 April 2020

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

Subject: Communication from the Government of the United States of America

The Government of the United States of America has sent the attached communication, dated 17 April 2020, with the request that it is circulated by the Organization.

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The Honorable Kitack Lim  
Secretary General  
International Maritime Organization  
4 Albert Embankment  
London SE1 7SR  
United Kingdom

Dear Secretary General,

The United States commends the efforts by IMO to ensure critical commerce by sea is not hindered beyond what is necessary during this challenging time, recognizing the vital efforts by ships and mariners to keep the supply chain active and robust during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The United States Coast Guard has established guidance and recommendations to assist ship owners and operators, mariners and port facilities as we work through this pandemic. This information is provided through Coast Guard Marine Safety Information Bulletins (MSIBs) which are publicly available at the following web address:

https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/

Please note this website shows all MSIBs issued by the Coast Guard, however, those specific to the COVID-19 pandemic are in year 2020 and identified by their title.

We respectfully request this letter be made available through a Circular Letter to all Member States, NGOs and IGOs, in order for interested parties to obtain the most up to date information.

We thank you in advance and take this opportunity to assure you of our cooperation with IMO as we collectively work through this difficult time.

Sincerely,

J. G. Lantz  
Director  
Commercial Regulations and Standards  
U.S. Coast Guard, COMDT (CG5-PS)