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Circular Letter No.4210
19 February 2020

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

Subject: **Port symposium "A Holistic approach to standards for port operational data in maritime supply chains", 30 April 2020**

1 The Secretary-General has the honour to invite participation at the event "A Holistic approach to standards for port operational data in maritime supply chains", which will be held at IMO Headquarters on 30 April 2020 from 14.30 to 17.00, during the second meeting of the Expert Group on Data Harmonization. The event will be conducted in English only and will address the priorities and challenges in the development of international standards for operational data in ports, including for berth to berth navigation, the ship-port interface and the end-to-end supply chain. After the presentations and panel debate, there will be a Q&A session. The programme for the event is attached in the annex.

2 Member States are invited to disseminate the invitation to their port representatives and to encourage them to participate in their delegations.

3 International organizations are also encouraged to disseminate the invitation among their associates and other interested parties and to register them under their national delegations.

Registration of participants

4 Member States, IGOs and NGOs wishing to attend should provide, prior to the event date, the names of their participants, via the Online Meeting Registration System (OMRS) as advised in Circular Letter No.3463 of 14 July 2014, in order to facilitate their entry into the building.

5 Once they have completed the registration procedure, participants will be issued 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

6 Participants whose names appear in the OMRS will be issued with the above-mentioned access card. Participants 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 event.

7 The Registration Desk will be open for registration from 13.30 on 30 April 2020. Early arrival would be of assistance.

8 Remote participation to the event is open to Member Governments, IGOs, NGOs and the general public. Registration and log-in procedures for remote participation are set out in the annex.

Procedure for visa applications

9 With a view to facilitating visa applications by those attendees who require United Kingdom entry visas, the Procedure governing the support by IMO of visa applications are set out in the annex.

ANNEX

**A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO STANDARDS FOR
PORT OPERATIONAL DATA IN MARITIME SUPPLY CHAINS**

Thursday, 30 April 2020

PROGRAMME

- 13.30 Registration
- 14.30 Keynote Speaker – Patrick Verhoeven, IAPH
Improving the ship-port interface through reliable digital data sharing
(resolution MEPC.323(74)).
- 14.45 Setting the scene: identifying priority areas for standardization of
operational data in ports
- Shipper view
Renato Zavattaro and Chris Torres, AB-Inbev
- Shipping line view
Andreas van der Wurf, Maersk Line
- Port stakeholders' views
Frank Kho, Terminal Industry Committee 4.0
Ben van Scherpenzeel, IHMA
- 15.40 Panel debate: Improving the quality and availability of operational data in
ports.
Moderator: Jeppe Skovbakke Juhl, BIMCO
- Berth to berth navigation standards
Jonathan Pritchard, Industry participant in IHO
- End-to-end supply chain standards
Jaco Voorspuij, GS1
- Notifications and declarations standards
Richard Morton, IPCSA
- Vessel and ISPS identification standards
Brice Martin-Castex; Henrik Madsen, IMO Secretariat
- 16.30 Q&A Session
- 17.00 Closing

PROCEDURE GOVERNING IMO SUPPORT FOR VISA APPLICATIONS

As established in article 7.2 of part III on Access and communications of the Headquarters Agreement, delegates are entitled to have their entry into the United Kingdom authorized without delay and without charge.

Delegates invited by the Organization who require United Kingdom entry visas should, in the first instance, apply online for an "**EXEMPT**" visa, note the reference numbers and follow the online instructions to attend either the nominated Visa Application Centre or the United Kingdom Embassy or High Commission. United Kingdom visa applications should be accompanied by the following documentation:

- i. the relevant IMO official invitation,
- ii. the nomination letter and
- iii. a note verbale from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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

If, after following the above-mentioned procedure, delegates still encounter visa problems, either the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Transport, the National Maritime Administration or the competent Ministry should request visa assistance in writing to the Head of the IMO External Relations Office, on paper bearing the official letterhead. The letter should state the reasons given by the British Embassy/High Commission as to why visas have been or may be refused and contain the following details:

- i. First name:
Family name:
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 session begins, to enable the Organization to support the visa application accordingly and the visa to be issued in good time.

Any requests for visa assistance should be communicated to:

External Relations Office (International Maritime Organization)
Fax: +44(0)20 7587 3210
Email: visa@imo.org

REMOTE PARTICIPATION

Remote participation in the event is open to Member Governments, IGOs, NGOs and the general public.

Participants are welcome to watch a live meeting video and may leave interactive comments during the event and the symposium.

PC, Mac and mobile devices including Android and iOS are supported. Please use any preferred browser and input:

<http://streaming.imo.org>

Remote participants are not required to register via OMRS but will be prompted online via the streaming website to fill in the following information:

Full name:
Job title:
Organization:
Type of organization:
Country:

Please note that early registration is not necessary. The streaming website will cache the above and reuse this profile for playing the video or rejoining the streaming sessions.

Live video will not be available before and after each event. Please follow IMO's social media sites for last-minute updates on the exact time when the event will start.
