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Circular Letter No.4244/Add.3
19 April 2021

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

Subject: **Communication from the Government of Montenegro**

The Government of Montenegro has sent the attached letter, received on 16 April 2021, with the request that it be circulated by the Organization.



Montenegro
Ministry of capital investments

Adress: Rimski trg 46,
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tel: +382 20 234 179
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No: 05-345/21-3414/1

Podgorica, 1. april 2021.

To: INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANISATION

Mr. Kitack Lim, Secretary - General

4, Albert Embankment
London Se 1 7sr
United Kingdom

**SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR ADOPTION OF EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES
RESULTING FROM THE COVID – 19 PANDEMIC**

Dear Mr. Secretary – General,

As we all know, lockdown measures imposed by countries around the world are unfortunately still in place resulting with inability to organise crew change in many countries.

Despite the UN General Assembly Resolution adopted on 1 Decembar 2020 at the 75th Session of the UN's General Assembly, recognizing seafarers as key workers in order to facilitate safe and unhindered movement for embarkation and disembarkation, there are still a number of seafarers holding Montenegrin certificates and documents that are embarked on board vessel with no possibility to organise crew change and their repatriation and whose certificates and documents are due to expire.

Also, seafarers who are curenly embarked on board vessel,holding Montenegrin certificates that need to be revalidated, requests for additional extention of certificates.

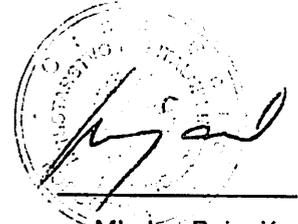
In accordance with previously mentioned and knowing that seafarers are unable to solve the problem, Ministry of Capital investments of Montenegro has decided to adopt one more additional measure in respect of extension of certificates and documents validity in order to allow those seafarers to continue to work leggaly on board vessel until the next port of call, where their embarcation and repatriation can be organized and in the context where COVID – 19 pandemic can be declared as a *force majeure*.

Dear Mr. Secretary – General, please alow us to hereby inform you that seafarers holding certificates and documents issued by Montenegro who are currently embarked or will be embarked on board vessel with valid certificates and documents that expire upon the expiration of regulary concluded seafarers employment agreement (SEA) and with inability to organize

crew change and repatriation, such certificates and documents shall remain valid until disembarkation and repatriation of seafarers concerned at the latest.

In the context of the above, we would like to kindly ask you to circulate this information to the Parties of the International Maritime Organisation, in order to avoid further difficulties related to seafarers.

Yours sincerely,



Mladen Bojanić

MINISTER

Copy to:

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