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CIRCULAR Celebrating the World Maritime Day

Every year in September we celebrate the World Maritime Day. This year theme is “Sustainable shipping for a sustainable planet”.

Notice to: [Ship Owners/ Managers/ Operators](#) | [Surveyors/Auditors](#)

[C20037](#) | 17 September 2020

"Sustainable shipping for a sustainable planet" has been selected as the World Maritime theme for 2020. This will provide an opportunity to raise awareness of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and showcase the work that the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and its Member States are undertaking to achieve the targets.

The IMO Council, meeting for its 122nd session at IMO Headquarters in London, endorsed the theme, following a proposal by IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim.

"I believe that this theme will provide flexibility to the Secretariat and the Member States in highlighting the myriad topics and challenges in meeting the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. At the same time, it will provide excellent opportunities to highlight the already significant contributions of shipping and the IMO to building that sustainable future," Mr. Lim said.

"The year 2020 will mark the beginning of a decade of action and delivery. It will be a decisive decade not only for the shipping industry, but for life on the planet," Mr. Lim said. He noted that September 2019 would see a gathering of Heads of State at the United Nations in New York, to take stock of how far the world has come in realizing the sustainable development commitments.

The SDG Summit, the Climate Action Summit and further high-level meetings planned for 2020, such as the Our Ocean and the UN Ocean Conferences, will provide opportunities for leaders from various sectors, including shipping, to both reflect on the work done and the urgent steps they further plan towards a sustainable future.

"The shipping industry, with the support of the IMO regulatory framework, has already started the transition towards this sustainable future. We have adopted and continue to develop measures to cut greenhouse gas emissions, reduce the sulphur content of ships' fuel oil, implement the Ballast Water Management Convention, protect the polar regions, reduce marine litter, improve the efficiency of shipping through the electronic exchange of information, meet the challenges of the digitalization of shipping and enhance the participation of women in the maritime community," Mr. Lim said.

"We are strategically equipped, in line with the approach laid out in the IMO Secretariat's SDGs Strategy, to showcase our contribution to the SDGs and to act upon untapped opportunities of technologies, finance and new partnerships for the future benefit of the shipping industry and humankind," Mr. Lim said.

Below you may find the full IMO Secretary-General message.



United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

In 2015, 193 countries adopted the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals ([SDGs](#))

This Agenda calls for action by all countries to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development by 2030 world-wide – and the SDGs are seen as an opportunity to transform the world for the better and leave no one behind.

As part of the United Nations family, IMO is actively working towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the associated SDGs. Indeed, most of the elements of the 2030 Agenda will only be realized with a sustainable transport sector supporting world trade and facilitating global economy. IMO's Technical Cooperation Committee has formally approved [linkages](#) between the Organization's technical assistance work and the SDGs.

While SDG 14 is central to IMO, aspects of the Organization's work can be linked to all individual SDGs.

Read more [here](#).

List of events

This year's World Maritime Day will be celebrated on 24 September 2020 in the form of an online event, due to social distancing measures caused by the pandemic."



WORLD MARITIME DAY

24 SEPTEMBER 2020

10.30 to 11.45 a.m. (BST)

SAVE THE DATE

FOR AN ONLINE DEBATE
SUSTAINABLE SHIPPING FOR
A SUSTAINABLE PLANET

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR PARTICIPATION
Further information to follow

Parallel event 2020

The World Maritime Parallel Event 2020 will be held in Durban, South Africa, 28-30 October 2020.

World Maritime Day Logo

For the purposes of promotion of the World Maritime Day, IMO has developed a logo which DromonClass invites all to incorporate under their email signatures for the month of September 2020.



Source: IMO