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Circular Letter No.3927
15 February 2019

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

Subject: **Seminar on "Values and benefits of a Port Community System, links to Single Window and WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement" (11 April 2019)**

1 The Secretary-General has the honour to invite participation at the seminar on "Values and benefits of a Port Community System, links to Single Window and WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement", co-sponsored by the International Port Community Systems Association (IPCSA) and the Secretariat, which will be held in the Main Hall of IMO Headquarters from 2.00 to 5.30 p.m. on 11 April 2019, as a side event during FAL 43.

2 In recent years, due to the speed of digital development, there has been an increased focus on the digitalization of cross border movements of goods and the simplification of administrative processes. Port Community Systems (PCS) have been exchanging electronic information in sea ports and airports for over 40 years, and with the advent of single window (SW) and the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, PCS have become an increasingly important part of simplifying cross border trade.

3 The seminar will focus on:

- .1 electronic exchange of information for trade facilitation:
 - .1 clarity of definitions such as SW, PCS and Cargo Community Systems (CCS);
 - .2 integration with SW; and
 - .3 the concept of PCS and CCS;
- .2 information flows in ports and the maritime supply chain;
- .3 customs information flows and logistics flows integration; and
- .4 an example of a PCS implementation in Africa.

4 The meeting will consist of presentations on the general concept and development of PCS which will be followed by discussions, questions and answers.

5 Member States are invited to disseminate this invitation to their ports and to encourage their port representatives to participate in their delegations.

6 International organizations are also encouraged to disseminate this invitation among their associates and other interested parties and to register them under their national delegations to FAL 43.

7 Remote participation in the seminar 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.

ANNEX

**PROGRAMME FOR THE SEMINAR ON
"VALUES AND BENEFITS OF A PORT COMMUNITY SYSTEM, LINKS TO
SINGLE WINDOW AND WTO TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT"
(IMO HEADQUARTERS, 11 APRIL 2019)**

2.00 p.m.	Opening and introduction	Roger Butturini, US Coast Guard
2.10 p.m.	Electronic exchange of information for trade facilitation • Clarity of definitions – SW, PCS, CCS etc. • Integration with Single Window • Concept of PCS and CCS	Richard Morton, Secretary General, IPCSA
2.30 p.m.	Information flows in ports	Raymond Seignette, Port of Rotterdam
2.45 p.m.	Maritime logistics information flows	Mees van der Wiel Portbase, Rotterdam
3.00 p.m.	Information flows for government, customs and maritime authorities	Uwe Liebschner, Customs Chairman, IPCSA
3.15 p.m.	Single windows in Africa	Stéphane Gaudechon, Bureau Veritas
3.30 p.m.	Developing a PCS, Djibouti PCS	Warsama Mouhoumed Bouh, Djibouti PCS
3.45 p.m.	Open discussion / questions and answers	
4.00 p.m.	Coffee break	
4.30 p.m.	Open discussion / questions and answers	
5.30 p.m.	End of seminar	

REMOTE PARTICIPATION

Remote participation in the seminar 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.

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.

Please follow IMO's social media sites for last-minute updates on the exact time when the event will start.
