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Circular Letter No.3939
12 March 2019

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

Subject: **Special event on "Women, ports and facilitation" during FAL 43
(IMO Headquarters, 10 April 2019)**

1 The Secretary-General has the honour to invite participation at a special event on "Women, ports and facilitation", co-sponsored by IMO and WISTA, which will be held in the Main Hall of IMO Headquarters at 5.45 p.m. on 10 April 2019, as a side event during FAL 43.

2 "*Empowering women in the maritime community*" has been selected as the World Maritime Day theme for 2019. IMO has a strong commitment to helping achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and continues to support the participation of women in both shore-based and seagoing posts, in line with the goals outlined under *SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*. IMO supports gender equality and the empowerment of women through gender specific fellowships; by facilitating access to high-level technical training for women in the maritime sector in developing countries; and creating an environment where women are identified and selected for career development opportunities in maritime administrations, ports and maritime training institutions.

3 Planned is a panel session with presentations, followed by a question and answer session (see attached provisional programme). The panel session will focus on:

- .1 how to advance and empower women in maritime traffic facilitation:
 - .1 status of women in shore-based posts;
 - .2 how the ports sector would benefit from gender equality; and
 - .3 practical steps to increase the number of women in ports; and
- .2 how to attract more women in maritime traffic facilitation:
 - .1 smart shipping, threat or opportunity for women;
 - .2 facilitating access to high-level technical training for women; and

.3 solutions to professional challenges and other challenges facing women in logistics.

4 Member States are invited to disseminate this invitation to their port authorities and to encourage women representatives to participate in their delegations.

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

6 Remote participation in the event is open to Member States, IGOs, NGOs and the general public. Registration and login procedures for remote participation are set out in the annex.

ANNEX

**SPECIAL EVENT ON WOMEN, PORTS AND FACILITATION
(10 APRIL 2019)**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

5.45 p.m.	Welcome speech	Mr. Kitack Lim, IMO Secretary-General
5.50 p.m.	Opening and introduction	Ms. Siv Gaalaas, Specialty Director, International Maritime Regulation and Polar Affairs, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, Norway
5.55 p.m.	IMO's women in maritime programme	Ms. Helen Buni, Principal Programme Assistant, Resource Mobilization and Partnership, TCD, IMO
6.00 p.m.	Embracing diversity and collaboration to deliver innovative world class best maritime practices into the future	Ms. Jeanine Drummond, Vice-Chair IAPH Women's Forum
6.10 p.m.	WISTA international's reach to empower women and build capacity in the maritime industry	Ms. Jeanne Grasso, Partner, Blank Rome LLP, WISTA International, Executive Committee Member for the Americas Region
6.20 p.m.	Smart shipping, threat or opportunity for women	Dr. Noura Al Dhaheri, Chief Executive Officer, UAE Maqta Gateway
6.30 p.m.	Use your power to empower: Women in the port sector	Dra. Guimara Tuñon Guerra, Director General, Ports and Maritime Ancillary Industries, Panama Maritime Authority
6.40 p.m.	Open discussion / questions and answers	
7.00 p.m.	End of seminar	

REMOTE PARTICIPATION

Remote participation in the special event on "Women, ports and facilitation" is open to Member States, 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 re-joining the streaming sessions.

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