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Circular Letter No.3946
22 March 2019

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

Subject: **International Seminar on Ship Recycling - Towards the Early Entry into Force of the Hong Kong Convention**

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit herewith an invitation by the Government of Japan to an International Seminar on Ship Recycling: Towards the Early Entry into Force of the Hong Kong Convention, which will be held on 10 May 2019 at IMO Headquarters in London.

The purpose of the seminar is to increase international awareness of the importance of the early entry into force of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009 (Hong Kong Convention). The seminar will have valuable inputs regarding how to promote sustainable ship recycling from leading policymakers and top executives, and will discuss what is necessary to move forward for the early entry into force of the Hong Kong Convention. For more information, please refer to the attached draft programme.

The seminar is open to all IMO Members, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. Experts in the field of ship recycling are particularly encouraged to attend. The seminar will be conducted in English without interpretation.

Governments, organizations and individuals wishing to participate in the seminar are requested to inform Japan at their earliest opportunity, preferably by 5 April, of their intended attendance by email to nakao-k24d@mlit.go.jp notifying:

- .1 title;
- .2 name;
- .3 position;
- .4 country/organization; and
- .5 email address.

Please note that those wishing to attend the seminar should make the required arrangements for their travel to and stay in London, including obtaining their own visa which may be required for entry and stay in the United Kingdom, and should have adequate travel and medical insurance cover.

ANNEX

INTRODUCTION AND DRAFT PROGRAMME

Date: 10 May 2019 (1.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.)
Venue: IMO Headquarters, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR
Organized by: Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) of Japan in cooperation with the IMO Secretariat

Purpose

To increase international awareness of the importance of the early entry into force of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009 (Hong Kong Convention or HKC).

Introduction

To realize safety and environmentally sound ship recycling, it is crucial to ensure that global ship recycling yards and ships comply with the Hong Kong Convention. In this seminar, leaders of the respective industries will introduce their efforts and progress to comply with the HKC as well as challenges towards the early entry into force of the HKC from their viewpoints. Following the sharing of the latest updates of the industry, we will have a better understanding of the HKC and discuss what is necessary to move forward for the early entry into force of the HKC.

This year is the 10th anniversary of the HKC, which was adopted in 2009, and the expectation for the early entry into force of the HKC has been significantly increased. In this seminar, policymakers will introduce the latest ship recycling policies in their countries and the progress of international cooperation projects for sustainable ship recycling. We will see the current situation and future prospective for the ratification of major maritime countries, and discuss how to increase an international awareness of the early entry into force of the HKC.

**INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON SHIP RECYCLING -
TOWARDS THE EARLY ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE HONG KONG CONVENTION
(Friday, 10 May 2019, at IMO Headquarters, London)**

**Organized by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, in
cooperation with the IMO Secretariat**

Draft Programme

13:30 Registration

14:00 Opening remarks

- **Mr. Kitack Lim**, Secretary General, IMO

14:10 Session 1: Efforts to comply with and promote the entry into force of the HKC in the industry

To realize safety and environmentally sound ship recycling, it is crucial to ensure that global ship recycling yards and ships comply with the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009 (HKC). In this session, leaders of the respective industries will introduce their efforts and progress to comply with the HKC as well as challenges towards the early entry into force of the HKC from their viewpoints. Sharing the latest updates of the industry, we will have a better understanding of the HKC and discuss what is necessary to move forward for the early entry into force of the HKC.

- **Mr. Guy Platten**, Secretary General, ICS
- **Mr. Martin Dorsman**, Secretary General, ECSA
- **Capt. Ang Chin Eng**, Secretary General, ASA
 - Necessity and importance of the early entry into force of the HKC as the global solution
 - Efforts and challenges being faced by shipping industry
- **Mr. Tim Wilkins**, Environment Director, INTERTANKO
 - Necessity and importance of the early entry into force of the HKC as the global solution
 - Efforts and challenges being faced by shipping industry
- **Mr. Reinoud Pijpers**, Director, ISRA
 - Efforts and challenges being faced by ship recycling industry
- **Mr. Nitin Kanakiya**, Secretary, SRIA, India
- **Mr. Chintan Kalthia**, Director, R.L.Kalthia Ship Breaking
 - Recent improvement of the yards and current challenges

- **Mr. Junichi Hirata**, General Manager, Class NK
 - Project in India to improve ship recycling yards
- **Mr. Kan Matsuzaki**, Director, IndustriALL
 - Recent improvements of yards from workers' aspect

15:50 Coffee break

16:10 Session 2: Ship Recycling Policies: Efforts towards the ratification of the HKC

This year is the 10th anniversary of the HKC, adopted in 2009, and the expectation for the early entry into force of the HKC has been significantly increased. In this session, policymakers will introduce the latest ship recycling policies in their countries and the progress of international cooperation projects for sustainable ship recycling. We will see the current situation and future prospective for the ratification of major maritime countries and discuss how to increase an international awareness of the early entry into force of the HKC.

- **Mr. Shin Imai**, Director for International Negotiations Office, Ocean Development and Environment Policy Division, Maritime Bureau, MLIT, Japan
 - Experience in the development of national law and accession of the HKC
 - Cooperation to upgrade ship recycling yards in India
- **Mr. Peter Koller**, Policy Officer, DG Environment, European Commission
 - Current implementation situation of the EU Regulation
 - Efforts of EU towards the early entry into force of the HKC
- **Mr. Satinder Pal Singh** (TBC), Joint Secretary, Ministry of Shipping, India
 - Latest ship recycling policies and efforts to ratify the HKC
- **Mr. Chunchang Zhang**, Deputy Director, China Maritime Safety Administration, China
 - Future perspective towards the ratification of the HKC
- **Mr. Mizanur Rahman**, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Industries, Bangladesh (IMO National Project Manager, SENSREC Project)
 - Outline and progress of the IMO Project "Safe and Environmentally Sound Ship Recycling in Bangladesh" (SENSREC)
 - Latest ship recycling policies and efforts to ratify the HKC
- **Mr. Sveinung Oftedal**, Specialist Director, Ministry of Environment, Norway
 - Expectation and activities towards the early entry into force of the HKC

17:50 Closing Remarks

- **Mr. Hideaki Saito**, Chair of MEPC

18:00 End of Seminar

Moderator: Mr. Julian Bray, Editor in Chief, TradeWinds
