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COUNCIL
24th extraordinary session
Agenda item 12(c)

C/ES.24/12(c)
30 August 2007
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EXTERNAL RELATIONS

(c) Report on World Maritime Day

Note by the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document reports on World Maritime Day, 2007

Action to be taken: Paragraph 6

Related documents: C 97/D; Circular letters Nos.2782 and 2796

1 In accordance with the practice approved by the Assembly and the Council, this year's World Maritime Day has been scheduled to be celebrated on 27 September 2007 at the Banqueting House, Whitehall, London, courtesy of the United Kingdom Government in view of the continuing refurbishment of the IMO Headquarters. A report on the celebration will be provided in an addendum to this document.

2 The theme for 2007, as approved by the Council at its ninety-seventh session (November 2006), is:

“IMO'S RESPONSE TO CURRENT ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES”

3 In accordance with the usual practice, information and material on the theme have been circulated to Governments and international organizations to assist them in planning their own activities for the Day (Circular letter No.2796). Hard copies of the text of the Secretary-General's message may be downloaded in the Organization's six official languages (Arabic, Chinese, French, English, Russian and Spanish) from the IMO website, www.imo.org and, as per the usual practice, hard copies of a relevant statement on the same theme may be downloaded in the three working languages of the Organization, i.e., in English, French and Spanish. The practice of sending a cassette recording of the Secretary-General's message has now been discontinued.

4 Member States are encouraged to organize, wherever possible, suitable ceremonies or programmes to celebrate the Day; and to inform the Secretariat, by 14 September 2007, of any activities that they are planning to this end, to enable the Secretary-General to report to the Council accordingly.

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly asked to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

5 At its ninety-seventh session, the Council accepted the offer of the Government of Brazil to host the 2007 World Maritime Day parallel event in the city of Salvador, Bahia. Following this, Circular letter No.2782 was issued on 21 March 2007, inviting participation to this event, a report of which will be submitted to the Council in due course.

Action requested of the Council

6 The Council is invited to take note of the information provided in this document.
