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Circular Letter No.4907  
28 August 2024

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

Subject: **World Maritime Day 2024**

Further to [Circular Letter No.4827](#) of 8 February 2024, which included a background paper on this year's theme "Navigating the future: safety first!", the Secretary-General has the honour to enclose herewith the text of his message on the occasion of World Maritime Day 2024. This year's celebration will take place on 26 September 2024.

The message is available for downloading in all of the Organization's official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) and the background paper is available in the Organization's three working languages (English, French and Spanish). Additionally, a video containing the Secretary-General's message is now available on the IMO website at: [World Maritime Day theme 2024 \(imo.org\)](#).



The Secretary-General's video message is also available on IMO's YouTube channel (click [here](#) or on the image):

In addition, the Secretary-General wishes to remind all Member States and international organizations of the Calendar of Events on the IMO website, which can be accessed at: [www.imo.org/en/About/Calendar](http://www.imo.org/en/About/Calendar).

The Calendar of Events provides the opportunity for greater visibility of the many events held around the world in support of World Maritime Day, the Day of the Seafarer and the International Day for Women in Maritime. It presents an effective and easy-to-use platform to inform other Member States and international organizations, in advance, of maritime-related celebrations, particularly online events that may be more widely attended. More information on the Calendar of Events is enclosed in [Circular Letter No.3889](#).

In order to promote this year's theme, as well as World Maritime Day, more widely, the Secretary-General encourages the authorities concerned to organize suitable events throughout the year and inform the Secretariat of any such activities, including listing them on the calendar as described above. Social media participation is also encouraged via X (formerly Twitter) by using the hashtag **#WorldMaritimeDay**. Photographs of the events can also be sent to: [media@imo.org](mailto:media@imo.org).

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**ANNEX**

**WORLD MARITIME DAY 2024  
NAVIGATING THE FUTURE: SAFETY FIRST!**

**A message from Arsenio Dominguez  
Secretary-General, International Maritime Organization**

When we think about safety in maritime, the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) is one of the first things that comes to mind. 2024 marks 50 years since the treaty was adopted. We can be proud of the crucial role this Convention has played in setting international safety standards for ship construction, equipment and operation, preventing maritime disasters and protecting lives.

But we cannot be complacent.

This year's World Maritime Day theme: "Navigating the future: safety first!" calls for collective effort to ensure we keep pace with the ongoing transformation in shipping.

And at IMO, we must ensure the continued development and implementation of the regulatory regime to prioritize safety as we steer towards tomorrow.

I encourage all stakeholders to mark this year's World Maritime Day on 26 September and invite you to join the conversation online using the hashtag #WorldMaritimeDay.

Let us all work to navigate the future with safety first!

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