



VIETNAM MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

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Date: 26th February 2021

To: International Maritime Organization

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Email: info@imo.org

K. Attn: Mr. Kitack Lim - Secretary General

Cc: Mr. Jan de Boer – Senior Legal Officer, Legal Affairs Office, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division

Subject: Proposal from Viet Nam “ Seafarers must be a priority for Covid 19 vaccines ”

Dear Mr. Kitack Lim,

First of all, we would like to send our most sincere and deepest thanks to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and to IMO Secretary General, Mr. Kitack Lim in particular, for the efforts and contributions to the cause of safety, security and environmental protection of the global maritime and shipping industry as a whole, particularly of member countries in relation to the prevention of the Covid 19 pandemic.

We absolutely agree with your message for Seafarers in Covid 19 pandemic with respect to “Designating all seafarers and marine personnel (not only nationals) within their jurisdiction as key workers providing an essential service.”, since the unique and essential work of seafarers for international shipping and for the world with the uninterrupted transportation of vital medical supplies, food and other basic necessities during the pandemic.

In the face of the current complicated developments of the pandemic, in order to ensure absolute safety for seafarers and marine personnel, national key workers, to maintain the continuity of the global supply chain, Vietnam would like to recommend to the Secretary-General some of the following proposals:

- Member States’ governments should have the policy of directing all their national seafarers and marine personnel to be on the priority list for the full Covid 19 vaccines.



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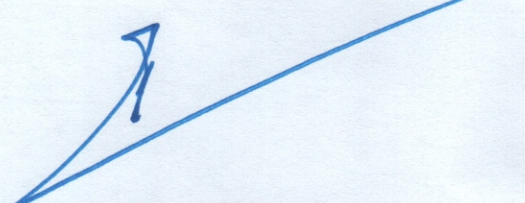
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- Member States' governments should have the policy of directing all foreign seafarers and marine personnel on board any vessels calling to their jurisdiction ports, those have not been fully vaccinated against Covid 19 to be on the list of priority for the full Covid 19 vaccination at the time of calling.

We hope that the Secretary-General will approve our proposals and develop a regulation based on the above proposals, and circulate to all member states to implement.

Sincerely yours,


Nguyen Xuan Sang
The Administrator

