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17 March 2026

To: Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Masters and Recognized Organizations

Dear Sir / Madam,

Security and Quality Advisory

Information related to Strait of Hormuz and the Middle East

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is deeply concerned about the wellbeing and safety of seafarers affected by the ongoing situation in the Straits of Hormuz (Concerned Waters). This advisory seeks to draw your attention to the utmost importance of ensuring the safety of navigation and security for Hong Kong-registered ships (HK Ships) operating in and around the Concerned Waters.

General Information

2. Information from IMO related to shipping and seafarers - Strait of Hormuz and the Middle East can be assessed at:

<https://www.imo.org/en/mediacentre/hottopics/pages/middleeast-strait-of-hormuz.aspx>¹

3. Masters, Ship Security Officers, Company Security Officers, Shipowners, and Ship Managers of HK Ships currently located in or around the Concerned Waters are hereby strongly urged to conduct a thorough and comprehensive Risk Assessment. It is imperative to establish and maintain communication with all relevant coastal States, port authorities, and port agents to obtain the necessary

¹ The IMO website is subject to change without notice

up-to-date regional risk information. Failure to secure such critical information may expose the ship and crew to intolerable risks. All crew members should maintain heightened vigilance at all times. The prescribed responses and measures outlined in the Ship Security Plan shall be strictly adhered to, and additional security measures should be implemented as deemed necessary to address the increased threat level.

Reporting security incidents

4. Please be reminded to report all security incidents in accordance with the SSP to the nearest rescue coordination centre or port authorities, as well as to the Hong Kong Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre using the following contact details:

Hong Kong Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre

(24 Hours Communication Focal Point)

Email: hkmrcc@mardep.gov.hk

Telephone: (852) 2233 7999

Fax: (852) 2541 7714

5. Should you have any enquiries, please contact us by e-mail at mms@mardep.gov.hk.

Yours faithfully,

(No signature on website copy)

(H.F. YUE)

Senior Surveyor of Ships / Cargo Ships Safety
for Director of Marine