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Circular Letter No.4283/Add.1
30 June 2020

To: All IMO Members
Intergovernmental organizations
Non-governmental organizations in consultative status

Subject: **Communication from the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu**

The Government of the Republic of Vanuatu has sent the attached communication, dated 29 June 2020, with the request that it be circulated by the Organization.

GOVERNEMENT
DE LA
RÉPUBLIQUE DE
VANUATU



GOVERNMENT
OF THE
REPUBLIC OF
VANUATU

AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

Monday 29th June 2020

His Excellency Kitack Lim
Secretary General
International Maritime Organization
4 Albert Embankment
SE1 7SR London
United Kingdom

Secretary General,

Subject: Vanuatu's measures in relation to COVID-19 – Seafarers Employment Agreement (SEA)

Vanuatu Maritimes Services Ltd. (VMSL) as the Administrator of the Vanuatu International Ship Registry has issued the attached policies with regards to Seafarers Employment Agreement to assist Vanuatu registered vessels and all seafarers serving thereon during the pandemic.

Noting the invitation in IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.5/Rev.1 of 2 April 2020, Vanuatu would respectfully request that the Secretariat issues a Circular Letter to all Member States, NGO's and IGO's, for circulation of the enclosed policies.

Copies of the latest versions are enclosed for your reference and parties can obtain the most updated guidance from VMSL website: <https://www.vanuatumaritimeships.com>.

Please accept, Secretary General, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Laurent Parenté



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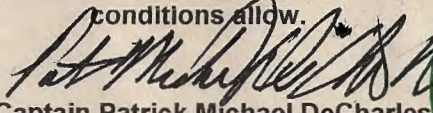
FLEET SAFETY LETTER 063020.GEN

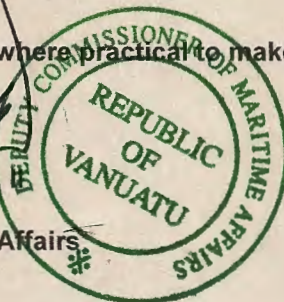
30 June 2020

Applicable to: This FLEET SAFETY LETTER is to be brought to the attention of Masters, seafarers, ship-owners, ship managers, operators, manning agents, Recognized Organizations and Port State Control Officers or any official agency regarding Vanuatu registered vessels and seafarers severing thereon.

Coronavirus and Seafarers Employment Agreement (SEA)

1. This Fleet Safety Letter is issue to reiterate the points stated in the Fleet Safety Letter 031420.GEN issued on 14 March 2020, *(except as provided in paragraph 2 below)* extending the seafarer's period of service on board due to the Coronavirus Pandemic with all benefits established under Standards A2.4 (Entitlement to Leave) and A2.5.1. (Repatriation) of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006. (MLC).
2. In addition to the above, this Fleet Safety Letter:
 - a. modifies paragraph 6 of Fleet Safety Letter 031420.GEN granting an automatic 45 day extension from the date of 14 March 2020 resulting in an expiration date of 30 April 2020 and;
 - b. revokes paragraph 7 of Fleet Safety Letter 031420.GEN establishing a procedure to extend any SEA past the original 45 days and;
 - c. any seafarer on the Vanuatu flagged vessel that has been issued a 60 day extension under paragraph 7 of the Fleet safety letter 031420.GEN beyond the original 45 days and due to expire on or about 30 June 2020 and the vessel owner/manager/vessel's agent cannot relieve and repatriate any affected seafarer due to any travel restrictions caused by the pandemic it is hereby automatically extended up to and including 30 September 2020.
3. All efforts should be made where practical to make the appropriate crew changes as the conditions allow.


Captain Patrick Michael DeCharles
by direction of the
Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs
The Republic of Vanuatu



FSL 063020.GEN