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Circular Letter No.4231/Add.14
4 January 2021

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

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

The Government of the Republic of Italy has sent the attached communication, dated 30 December 2020, with the request that it be circulated by the Organization.

This is an English courtesy translation of the original documentation prepared in Italian. Please consider that only the original version in Italian has legal value.

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*Ministry of Infrastructure and transport
Department for transport, navigation, general affairs
and personnel
Directorate-general for the supervision of port
authorities, port infrastructures and maritime and
inland waterway transport*

HE Mr. Kitack Lim
Secretary General
International Maritime Organization
secretary-general@imo.org

Subject: COVID 19 Pandemic - Extension of validity of Certificates of Competence and endorsement certificates

Excellency,

In light of the persisting health emergency which, as is known, does not allow the usual turnover of seafarers on board, the Italian administration has decided to extend the validity of Certificates of Competence and endorsements issued to foreign seafarers embarked on Italian ships.

The extension of validity for the endorsements of Certificates of Competence issued by foreign countries shall not in any case exceed the validity of the Certificate of Competence held.

The above extensions of validity are automatically extended until disembarkation, without any administrative formality.

We therefore request that this communication be circulated to all states that are party to the STCW'78 Convention as amended.

Italy avails itself of this opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Director General
Maria Teresa Di Matteo