

4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT
LONDON SE1 7SR
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

Circular Letter No.4440
5 August 2021

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

Subject: **Communication from the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran**

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has sent the attached communication, dated 4 August 2021, with the request that it be circulated by the Organization.

Ambassador*Embassy of The Islamic Republic of Iran***In the Name of Almighty****NO: 2181-400051982****London, 4 August 2021***Dear Sir,*

During the recent developments in the Gulf of Oman and according to the reports, two persons sadly lost their lives on Mercer Street but there have been attempts to attribute the incident to the Islamic Republic of Iran through unsubstantiated and baseless allegations. Following to this incident, further allegations continued to be pumped into the media about another incident on a merchant vessel in the Persian Gulf about the possible involvement of the Iranian forces while all this propaganda fuss came down to "the issue resolved, back to normal".

First and foremost, the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly rejects any such politically motivated, baseless and unsubstantiated allegations and while condemning such detrimental and destabilizing actions, further reaffirms time and again its commitments under international law in maintaining the safety and security of the international shipping. The Iranian endeavour in combatting maritime piracy pays enough tribute to the claim that Iran has been actively engaged in improving maritime safety and security and we believe that safe and secure shipping especially in our own region is to the best interest of our own nation and to the international community.

We also believe that manipulations based on baseless allegations about any Iranian involvement in the recent incidents in the region will jeopardize the safety and security of the international shipping in our region since one mistake under such circumstances can lead to a disaster in the Gulf of Oman or the Persian Gulf.

We would also like to remind that such one sided, biased and adventurist approach by some certain countries with a language of force and threat against the Islamic Republic of Iran not only runs contrary to the principle of non-use of force and threat to use it enshrined in the UN Charter but also may jeopardize the international shipping in our region for a long term.

Therefore, we call upon all states and international actors who are committed to the internationally accepted principles of the international law including the Chapter XI-2 of the SOLAS on the safety and security of the international shipping around the world to condemn such destabilizing actions in an already sensitive region and sincerely cooperate in order to maintain safety and security of the international shipping in all international waterways including in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Mohsen Baharvand

Ambassador and Permanent Representative

Baharvand
to IMO

Mr. Kitack Lim IMO Secretary General

International Maritime Organization

4 Albert Embankment,

London SE1 7SR
