INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

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Circular Letter No.4524/Add.1
14 March 2022

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

Subject: **Ukraine crisis – Security situation in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov**

1 The ongoing military action in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov presents a serious and immediate threat to the safety and security of crews and vessels operating in the region, particularly in the north-western part of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov. The seriousness of the situation is underlined by a growing number of open-source reports of security incidents involving merchant shipping.

2 The Secretary-General wishes to express his deep concern about the spillover effects of the military action in Ukraine on global shipping, logistics and supply chains.

3 IMO is continuing to liaise closely with all key stakeholders in the region and to contribute to attempts to address the safety and security of shipping in this area.

4 Further details on the security threats to merchant shipping in the region can be found at the following link: https://shipping.nato.int/nsc/operations/news/-2022/risk-of-collateral-damage-in-the-north-western-black-sea.

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