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To: All IMO Member States

United Nations and specialized agencies

Intergovernmental organizations

Non-governmental organizations in consultative status

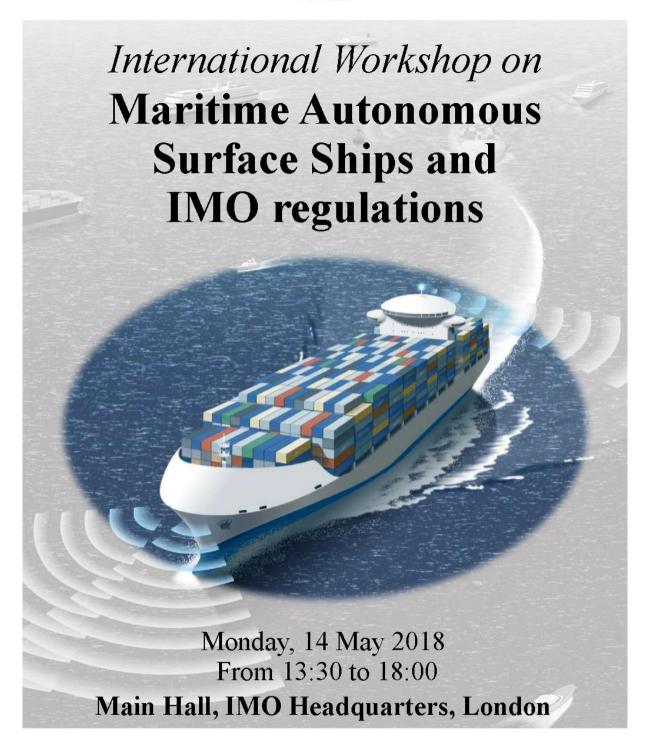
Subject: International Workshop on Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships and

IMO regulations (Monday, 14 May 2018, at IMO Headquarters, London)

- 1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its ninety-eighth session (MSC 98) held in June 2017, agreed to include a new agenda item on "Regulatory scoping exercise for the use of Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS)" in the agenda for MSC 99, and deliberation on MASS will therefore start at that session, to be held from Wednesday, 16 to Friday, 25 May 2018.
- In this regard, an "International Workshop on Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships and IMO regulations" has been scheduled to be held on Monday, 14 May 2018, two days before MSC 99, at IMO Headquarters, to progress this important work and facilitate the deliberations under the agenda item. This International Workshop consists of three sessions as follows:
 - Session 1 Presentations on R&D of MASS: Each presenter is expected to explain relevant R&D projects and give a view on international regulations and MASS, gained through ongoing projects;
 - Session 2 Presentations on regulatory studies: Each presenter is expected to identify issues to be considered in terms of international regulations and MASS, and give views about them; and
 - Session 3 Panel discussion: All presenters for sessions 1 and 2 are expected to participate in the panel discussion to deliberate how regulatory issues should be addressed by IMO.
- The Workshop, organized by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan (MLIT), the National Institute of Maritime, Port and Aviation Technology (MPAT), the National Maritime Research Institute (NMRI) and the Japan Ship Technology Research Association (JSTRA), is scheduled to take place from 1.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. on Monday, 14 May 2018, in the Main Hall of IMO Headquarters, 4 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR. The programme of the workshop is attached. The workshop will be conducted in English only and will be followed by a reception sponsored by JSTRA.

- 4 Participants are requested to inform the Workshop's Secretariat by Friday, 4 May 2018, of their intended attendance by email to WS_on_MASS@nmri.go.jp, notifying:
 - .1 title;
 - .2 name;
 - .3 position;
 - country/organization; and email address. .4
 - .5

ANNEX





Organized by



Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan



Japan Ship Technology Research Association



16:00 Session 2 – Regulatory study Mr. James Fanshawe CBE Chairman, UK Maritime Autonomous Systems Regulatory Working Group (MASRWG) Mr. Per Sønderstrup (SFS) Director, Maritime Regulation and Legal Affairs, Danish Maritime Authority Mr. Tomotsugu Noma Maritime Bureau **MLIT** 17:00 Session 3 - Panel discussion Moderator: Dr. Susumu Ota Centre for International Cooperation MPAT - NMRI Panelist: All presenters in sessions 1 and 2 17:55 Closing address 18:00 Reception sponsored by JSTRA