



MERCHANT NAVY COMMEMORATIVE THEME PROJECT (MNCTP)



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED NATIONS
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION (IMO)
OBSERVANCE DAY OF THE SEAFARER

JUNE 25, 2021

Ottawa, Today – Mr. Stéphane Ouellette, President and CEO, Merchant Navy Commemorative Theme Project (MNCTP), expressed his appreciation to all seafarers for their worldwide contributions to our economy, security, defence (both in times of peace and war), and risks to life—and—limb they face every day at sea.

The *Day of the Seafarer* is the official international day of observance established by the IMO in 2010. The main objectives of this day are to recognize seafarers' worldwide contributions towards seaborne trade, and to thank them for their contributions to the world economy and to civil society. It also expresses our gratitude for the risks and personal costs to life they face at sea, so that we may continue to enjoy our life on shore.

The IMO theme for the 2021 campaign is: **Fair Future for Seafarers**

“In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, seafarers found themselves both on the front line of the global response and subject to difficult working conditions surrounding uncertainties and difficulties around port access, re-supply, crew changeovers, repatriation, etc.

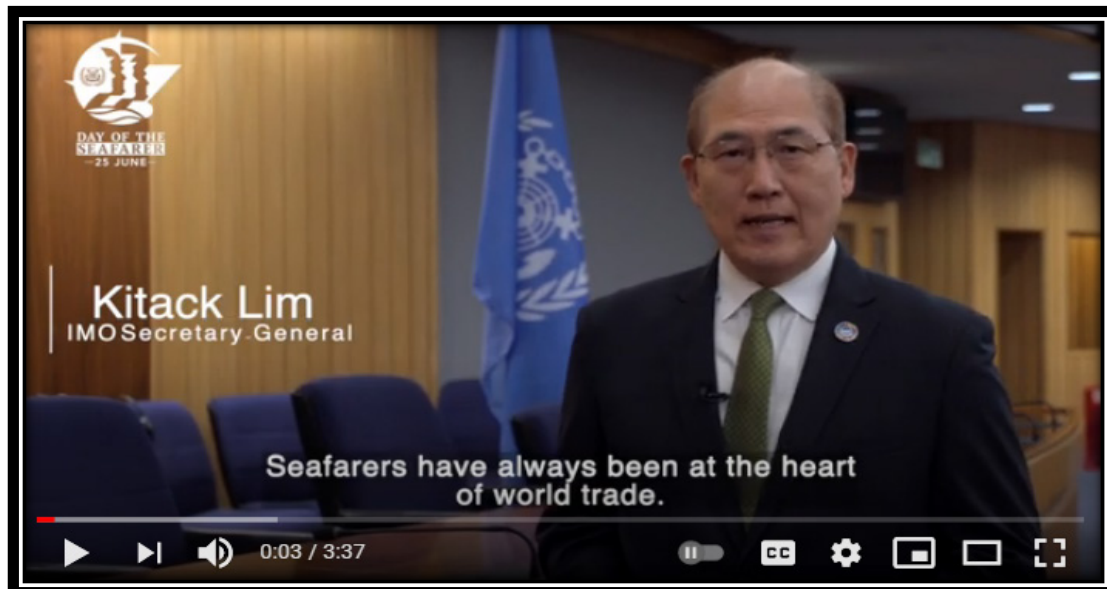
“In light of this, the 2020 Day of the Seafarer campaign focused its message around urging governments to recognize seafarers as key workers and ease travel restrictions for them to facilitate crew changes.

*“The 2021 Day of the Seafarer campaign will continue to encourage governments to support seafarers amid the pandemic but will expand its message, calling for a **fair future for seafarers**.*

“The campaign will discuss issues that will still be relevant to seafarers after the pandemic, such as fair treatment of seafarers, fair working conditions (in line with [ILO's Maritime Labour Convention](#)), fair training, fair safety, etc.” [From [IMO Website](#).]



Message from IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim



To view the video message from IMO Secretary-General Lim, please select image.

Quotes

“Seafarers are the silent workforce who slip in and out of our ports, unnoticed, ensuring that all of our needs and wants are met, without regard of a thank you. Today International Day of the Seafarer is an opportunity for all to show recognition for Seafarers past and present. Coming from the four corners of the world, spending long periods away from loved ones, with a group of likeminded people often of differing nationalities, long hours with monotonous and often dangerous duty’s to perform in treacherous weather conditions, Liverpool Seafarers Centre requests all nations give Seafarers the respect they richly deserve, noting that world trade continued throughout the Covid-19 pandemic all thanks to Seafarers who have borne the impact of restrictive practice of no shore leave.”

– John P. Wilson BSc (Hons), Chief Executive/Company Secretary, Liverpool Seafarers Centre, Liverpool, UK

“The stories of seafarers, ships, and ports are an unknown legacy of the indomitable spirit, strength, survival instincts, and achievements of humankind. The world’s maritime narrative is one of fellowship, shared common interests, values, and goals within our shores and worldwide.”

– Stéphane Ouellette, President and CEO, MNCTP

Quick Facts

- The IMO is the United Nations’ specialized agency with responsibility for the safety and security of shipping, and the prevention of marine pollution by ships. The IMO slogan sums up its objectives: Safe, secure, and efficient shipping on clean oceans.

Associated Links:

- [World Maritime Theme 2021 | International Maritime Organization \(IMO\)](#)
- [IMO unveils theme of 2021 World Maritime Day | Ships & Ports | August 22, 2020](#)
- [Canada a leading cooperator with IMO | Transport Canada](#)

Contact Information

- Merchant Navy Commemorative Theme Project (MNCTP)
Stéphane Ouellette
President and CEO
E-mail: ouelletes@rogers.com
Website: www.alliedmerchantnavy.com