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Circular Letter No.4229
25 March 2020

To: All IMO Members
United Nations and specialized agencies
Intergovernmental organizations
Non-governmental organizations in consultative status

Subject: **Temporary suspension of sales and distribution of IMO Publications in hard copy**

As a precautionary measure in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, the sales and distribution of IMO publications in hard copy has been suspended since 11 March 2020.

IMO digital titles (e-books) service continues uninterrupted and every effort is exerted to support customers through the IMO sales website.

The IMO Publishing team continues to work remotely to enable the publication of new titles when they become available. In the next few days, IMO will launch the *Procedures for port State control, 2019* (2020 edition) and a new title to accompany it, *Instruments relevant to procedures for port State control, 2019*. As with all IMO publications, until operations return to normal, all new titles will be published in electronic format only.

IMO appreciates the support of Member States, NGOs, IGOs and relevant authorities in acknowledging the very challenging times we are facing and to exercise a reasonable approach on statutory requirements with regard to the renewal of publications on board ships.

IMO continues to explore practical ways to share newly published titles with Member States in digital format.
