INTERCARGO is deeply concerned at the tragic loss of the VLOC vessel STELLAR DAISY reported on 31 March 2017; our thoughts are with the families and loved ones of the seafarers. As long as there is still hope, our wishes are for the missing officers and crew to be found and the loss of life in this sad event to be minimised, as only 2 of them have been rescued so far, and reportedly 22 still missing.

INTERCARGO praises the Search And Rescue (SAR) efforts in response to this unfortunate incident. In its aftermath, the shipping community should be concerned about the non-availability of sufficient SAR capabilities in the vicinity of busy shipping lanes around the world and revisit this issue.

INTERCARGO encourages the Flag State and all stakeholders (e.g. Classification Society and P&I Club) involved in this regretful event to be mobilised swiftly and cooperate fully, in order to submit as quickly as possible to IMO a thorough and quality report investigating its causes. Lessons need to be learnt promptly after maritime casualties.

INTERCARGO stresses the importance of timely submission of the casualty investigation report to IMO, as a means to identify the causes of the incident and enable corrective actions to be taken. To this end, and given its commitment to the safety of crews and ships as its top priority, INTERCARGO engages itself in making full use of such a report outcome in the industry fora where it participates and in its capacity as the International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners.

About INTERCARGO: The International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners was established in 1980 with the objective of giving a voice to shipowners, managers and operators of dry cargo vessels and better representing this shipping sector. Our Members commit to a safe, efficient, high quality and environmentally-friendly dry cargo shipping industry. INTERCARGO is an accredited NGO observer at IMO and a member of the Round Table of International Shipping Associations. INTERCARGO considers that free and fair competition in the shipping industry is of fundamental importance and this serves as its prime principle.

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