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

Subject: Coronavirus (COVID 19) – WHO e-learning courses on "Promoting public health measures in response to COVID-19 on cargo ships and fishing vessels" and "Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases and outbreaks on board ships"

The Secretary-General circulated, on 26 August 2020 (Circular Letter No.4204/Add.28), WHO guidance to promote public health measures on cargo ships and fishing vessels and has now received information regarding the following two e-learning courses produced by WHO:

.1 "Promoting public health measures in response to COVID-19 on cargo ships and fishing vessels". The link for the course is: https://extranet.who.int/hslp/training/course/view.php?id=344  
At the end of this course, the learner would be able to describe the public health measures that may protect seafarers throughout their journey to the vessel, on the vessel, and on the way home; and prevent and manage an outbreak of COVID-19 disease on board a cargo ship or fishing vessel. Target audience: seafarers, shipowners, unions and associations, and competent authorities for health and transport.

.2 "Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases and outbreaks on board ships". The link for the course is: https://extranet.who.int/hslp/training/enrol/index.php?id=326&lang=en  

Relevant WHO guidance can be found at the following links on the WHO website.


Member States and international organizations are encouraged to disseminate the two e-learning courses as widely as possible to all parties concerned.