

EMERGENCY MOTION
ON
PRESERVING THE SAFETY AND WELFARE OF SEAFARERS

The Panhellenic Seamen's Federation

CONDEMNS the violent captivation of the two Greek-owned and Greek-flagged tankers that took place illegally on Friday 27 May 2022 in international waters of the Gulf by the Iranian armed forces,

NOTING WITH CONCERN that, the seizure of merchant ships and the hostage-taking of crews is a clear violation of international law and a dangerous development for international shipping, crews and international trade,

HAVING IN MIND the dramatic impact on the safety and security of navigation through seaports on the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, following the outbreak of the military conflict in Ukraine,

BEING GREATLY CONCERNED by the number of vessels and Seafarers currently stranded in the Black Sea and Sea of Azov region and unable to leave the area safely,

HIGHLIGHTES that Seafarers, the workforce around the world who keep the supply lines moving and alive, should not be collateral victims in any political or military crisis,

UNDERScores the paramount importance of preserving the safety and welfare of Seafarers and providing maximum assistance when caught up in conflict, ensuring their immediate and safe repatriation,

CONDEMNES FURTHER any form of violence against seafarers and **UNDERLINES** that crews, affected by any conflict, should be allowed free access to communications with their families,

BEING ALARMED by the reports of illegal seizure and detention of ships against, international humanitarian law,

RECALLING our mission to promote safe, secure, environmentally sound, efficient and sustainable shipping through cooperation,

APPRECIATES the support of ITF, in coming to the assistance of Seafarers towards strengthening and safeguarding the ITF Seafarer affiliates around the world,

REQUESTS ITF, to continue to raise concerns regarding the impact of hostilities against all crews and persisting on the establishment of corridors for the safety and expeditious evacuation of Seafarers and vessels from any zone of hostilities,

CALLS UPON THE ITF SECRETARIAT to take action as a matter of urgency towards the Iranian government for the immediate release Seafarers serving on the above captivated ships.

Submitted by Panhellenic Seamen's Federation (PNO)