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PRESS RELEASE – DENOUNCEMENT

The repatriation delays of many months now for our fellow seafarers whose contracts have expired continue, with all the relevant consequences and risks, even for their health. This problem becomes even greater for those crews which are left unprotected by their companies. This is happening to the crew of the cargo ship "ANGELIC POWER", which carries the Greek flag and for which the managing company "PANTHALASSA MARITIME CORP" is completely unconcerned.

The ship is berthed since 27-1-2021 at Guishan, China. The ship-owning company is being prosecuted for debts owed to China, due to which the court has imposed legal measures on the ship. The seafarers remain unpaid and their contracts have expired for many months now, but the company is not interested at all in their repatriation. And that is not the only case. The Chinese authorities took away their passports! The few provisions they have left are running out. The same goes for fuel. The drugs have run out as well and eight of the crew members are already facing serious health problems. However, they still don't have a response from either the company or the Local Authorities, which are completely indifferent to their situation.

The ship's logbook and certificates have expired and were not renewed by the company. This means they are left without Security (P and I Club). In other words, the company has abandoned them. Our Union, The Masters & Mates Union of Greek Merchant Marine, with continuous interventions, is demanding an immediate solution to this unacceptable situation. All the other Marine Unions are doing the same. However, the actions of the Ministry of Shipping haven't produced any results yet.

The situation reaches the point of no return. There is no time to waste, no room for delays.

We are asking here and now for what has to be done for our colleagues to be repatriated and receive their unpaid salaries.

It is unacceptable for the crew to be held hostages due to business interests.

Piraeus March 26th, 2021

MASTERS AND MATES UNION OF GREEK MERCHANT MARINE



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