

To: Contracting Parties to the International Agreement on the use of INMARSAT Ship Earth Stations within the Territorial Sea and Ports (“SES Agreement”)

IMSO Member States that are not Contracting Parties to the SES Agreement

Contracting Governments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 that are neither Contracting Parties to the SES Agreement, nor IMSO Member States

GMDSS Satellite Service Providers

IMO and IMSO Observers

From: IMSO Director General 

Subject: **Schedule of the International Conference on the SES Agreement**

Reference: IMSO/CL/005

24 September 2020

The Director General refers to Circular Letter – ref. IMSO/CL/004 – dated 15 September 2020 on Preparation for the International Conference of Contracting Parties to International Agreement on the use of INMARSAT Ship Earth Stations within the Territorial Sea and Ports (here-in after referred to as “SES Conference”).

As informed in the aforementioned letter, the Director General requested the IMO Meeting Schedule Reconstruction Team to allocate 12 and 13 November exclusively to conduct the SES Conference virtually by the KUDO e-conferencing platform. In response, the IMO Secretariat informed that although 12 and 13 November can be available for IMSO, delegations may have difficulties to attend the SES Conference due to the fact that IMO MSC meeting finishing on 11 November and a MEPC meeting beginning 16 November. IMO advised further that they had received feedback regarding the intensity of the meeting schedule for the remainder of 2020 and this may put pressure on delegations to continuously attend a series of meetings.

Therefore, the Director General would like to hear the opinion on whether IMSO should continue this effort to hold the SES Conference in November or postpone it to next year until the new date is allocated by IMO. Accordingly, Member States and observers are invited to submit response by **5 October 2020** via email to Head of Operations Sadatoshi Koike (sadatoshi.koike@imso.org). All input would be appreciated for final coordination with IMO.

The Director General avails himself of this opportunity to convey the assurance of his highest consideration.