



To: IMSO Member States  
Heads of Diplomatic Missions in the United Kingdom  
Permanent Representatives to the IMO

From: IMSO Director General

**Subject: Appointment of Member State Focal Points for IMSO matters**

Reference: IMSO/CL/013

Date: 29 December 2021

1 The Assembly at its twenty-sixth session decided that Member States should provide to the Director General the contact details (name, position, organization, address, telephone, email etc.) of a national focal point(s) to facilitate communications with the relevant Member State Administrations.

2 The notification of such appointments should be addressed to the Director General in writing, signed by the competent authority of a Member State Government. All notifications regarding appointment or change of focal point(s) and any associated queries on the matter may be directed to [info@imso.org](mailto:info@imso.org).

3 It is important to note that the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) is the inter-governmental organization whose primary purpose is the oversight of certain public satellite safety and security communication services provided by mobile satellite communication systems. IMSO also serves as the Coordinator for the Long-Range Identification and Tracking of Ships (LRIT) system. IMSO performs these functions under a Cooperation Agreement with IMO. Furthermore, under a similar cooperation agreement with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), IMSO also ensures same level of satellite communication resilience for aeronautical safety.

4 As such, the role national focal point is to provide an interface with the national authority with responsibility for the safety of seafarers and the safe movement of shipping generally; in addition, the focal point should be able to liaise directly with the aviation counterparts.

5 As resilience in satellite communications is greatly dependent on access to orbital resources and associated radio frequency spectrum the role of a national focal point is also of paramount importance for coordination with other involved national entities, in the context of IMSO functions.

6 Therefore, in nominating the national focal point it is also important to consider the basic functions of the Organization, as contained in paragraphs 3 to 5 above.

7 The current list of focal points can be accessed on IMSO Docs. To ensure the list contains accurate and current focal point details, the competent Member Government authority is invited to review the list and notify the Director General of any changes in writing.

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

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