



COMITÉ MARITIME INTERNATIONAL

PRESIDENT

22 December 2021

MLA Presidents
Titulary Members
Consultative Members

Re: *Holiday Season Greetings and Update on GA Guidelines*

Dear Presidents, Titulary Members and Consultative Members,

I write to wish you, your family and colleagues all the best for the Holiday Season, as well as a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year after what has undoubtedly been two difficult years for many around the world.

As you will recall, the Chair of the Standing Committee on General Average, Jörn Groninger, provided you with a report on the work of the Standing Committee during our 30 September 2021 virtual Assembly. The Guidelines on General Average drafted by the Standing Committee were part of the documentation made available to all NMLAs (as well as to Consultative Members and Titulary Members) prior to the Assembly.

During the Assembly, it was resolved that NMLAs would have 60 days after the close of the Assembly (i.e., until 30 November 2021) to comment on the Guidelines. Until now, the CMI has not received any comments. As I am not sure whether all NMLAs were aware of the 60-day comment period, I have taken the liberty of attaching the current draft of the Guidelines for your review and comment,

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and note that during a virtual meeting of the Executive Council held on 1 December 2021, it was resolved to grant NMLAs a further 60-day period to comment on the draft Guidelines on General Average (i.e., until 31 January 2022).

During your review of the Guidelines, please bear in mind the Standing Committee on General Average is a special and unique Committee of the CMI, both in terms of its composition and work. In particular, the CMI has traditionally taken great care to ensure that the relevant industry associations or stakeholders, namely insurers and shipowners, are well represented through their respective associations, i.e., the International Union of Marine Insurance (IUMI), and the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS). The current draft of the Guidelines is the result of more than a year of work by the members of the Standing Committee. The draft has been approved by IUMI and ICS, and thus, any proposed changes would necessarily require that the consultation and approval process be started again.

As mentioned during our virtual Assembly on 30 September 2021, the Guidelines on General Average will be presented to the October 2022 Assembly in Antwerp for approval (along with proposed changes to the CMI Constitution which are required in order for the CMI to remain in compliance with the new Belgian Code on Companies and Associations).

Again, my best wishes for the Holiday Season, and I look forward to seeing you in Antwerp next year.

Faithfully yours,



Christopher O. Davis

cc: Executive Council