10 June 2019

Her Excellency Ambassador Ms. Nicole Taillefer
Permanent Representative of France
to the International Maritime Organization (IMO)
Permanent Representation of France to IMO
6 Cromwell Place
London SW7 2JN

Excellency,

It is with great sadness that I have learnt of the tragic loss of life of the three French rescue members of the team from the National Society of Sea Rescue (SNSM) who had gone to the aid of a fishing boat which was struggling in the giant swell caused by storm Miguel, on Friday, 7 June 2019.

On behalf of the entire membership of International Maritime Organization (IMO), the Secretariat and myself, we wish to express our heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathy for those who have lost their loved ones and our thoughts and hopes remain with the seafarers who survived this ordeal.

I wish to praise the heroic action of the courageous and valiant members of the SNSM, and I wish to convey to you, on behalf of IMO, our compassion and an assurance that our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of the victims, and with the people of France as a whole, at these distressing times.

The IMO stands ready to offer any technical assistance that may be needed.

Yours sincerely,

Kitack Lim
Secretary-General

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