

To: FONASBA Members

Cc: FONASBA Executive Committee

Cc: ECASBA Advisory Panel

Dear All,

Here in UK we have for some weeks been standing outside our houses at 8.00 pm every Thursday to clap, cheer, bang saucepans, let off fireworks and otherwise make a noise in support of the doctors, nurses, carers and other front line staff in the fight against COVID-19. No doubt similar actions are also taking place in other countries.

In the same spirit, ships in port and at anchorage at noon local time on 1<sup>st</sup> May (Labour Day) are being encouraged to sound their horns in support of seafarers and to recognise the part they have played in ensuring that food fuel and vital supplies have continued to move and thus mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This action is being supported by all the associations represented on the joint industry body (of which FONASBA is one) that meets every week to discuss joint actions by the maritime sector. A note from the International Chamber of Shipping is attached for further information. It would be excellent if FONASBA member associations could get in touch with their national ship owners association and coordinate the action as well as asking individual member companies to spread the word to the vessels they represent in order to get them to join in. Spreading the word to local media outlets would also be good to raise awareness of the action in the wider community. A post about this will appear on our social media feeds today.

Thanks in advance for your support of this excellent initiative.

Best regards,

**JONATHAN C. WILLIAMS FICS**

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