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EDRPOU code 38727770

Mr. Patrick Verhoeven

Managing Director

International Association of Ports and
Harbors (IAPH)

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Dear Mr. Verhoeven,

State Enterprise “Ukrainian Sea Port Authority” (hereinafter - SE “USPA”) expresses thereby its respect and kindly informs of the following:

On February 24, 2022, the Russian Federation launched a war against Ukraine and still continues a full-scale military operation on Ukrainian territory, attacking from the air, sea and land.

Every day Ukraine faces unprecedented scale of military aggression, which is rapidly gaining grounds - from occupation of our land, strikes on critical infrastructure, to missile attacks and bombing of peaceful residential areas.

Due to temporary occupation of the eastern territories of our state by the Russian Federation, sea ports located in the Azov region are closed. The sea port of Skadovsk, Kherson region, is under occupation as well.

Mykolayiv and Kherson sea ports have almost terminated their operations and are under the blockade of Russian troops.

Only sea ports, located on the Danube River - Izmail, Reni, Ust-Dunaysk, remained fully operational.

Since July 22, 2022, owing to the initiative regarding the export of agricultural products by sea, signed by Ukraine in Istanbul, bulkers and tankers are enabled to enter and exit sea ports of Odesa, Chernomorsk and Pivdenyy for loading of grain and other agricultural products.

Thus, within the "Grain Initiative", since August 1, 2022, 736 vessels have left the ports of “Big Odesa” and exported 21,2 million tons of Ukrainian agricultural products to the countries of Asia, Europe and Africa.

The export of Ukrainian agricultural products is of a high priority not only for Ukraine, but also for the whole world, for the United Nations (UN), World Food Program (WFP), etc. For Ukrainian agricultural products to enter the European Union and other world markets, it is extremely important to ensure the proper level of maritime safety and security in the Black Sea region.

However, recent events related to commencement of the sea drones use by the aggressor pose a threat to vessels safe navigation under the grain initiative and may



actually disrupt its operation and terminate export of Ukrainian agricultural products.

The solution to this problem may be the use of sea floating safety barriers (brochure enclosed), which are established to protect certain areas of the sea, ports and harbours from unexpected and unwanted intrusions. Such floating barriers separate the sea area, which is closed for the passage of certain vessels. They can serve as a citadel against hidden attacks from the sea by drones and landing boats.

To ensure the safety of navigation and proper level of port structures protection, it is necessary to establish a barrier in the water areas of 3 sea ports involved in the operation of the grain corridor, with a total length of 2405 meters (including additional 30% of the length for free movement in the sea) (Odessa – 1410,5 m., Chernomorsk – 312 m. and Yuzhniy – 682,5 m.). The total estimated cost of such constructions is 1,8 million euros.

Taking into account the military situation in Ukraine, the significant reduction of operational activities, income, and thus lack of funds to procure such defense equipment at the SE "USPA's" own expense, we kindly ask to consider the possibility of providing a donor assistance for purchase and installation of the above mentioned protective structures, which in turn will guarantee safe functioning of the "Grain Corridor", facilitate export of Ukrainian agricultural products to the world markets and help to prevent the food crisis.

Contact person from SE "USPA" - Head of the International Relations Department, Aleksey Panasiuk, mob.: +380674488225, e-mail: Aleksey.panasiuk@uspa.gov.ua

We express our sincere gratitude for supporting the transport industry of Ukraine in the most difficult conditions of war and hope for further effective and fruitful cooperation.

Slava Ukraini!

Best regards,

Acting CEO



Oleksii VOSTRIKOV

