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10 August 2022

To: Ship Owners, Ship Managers and Ship Masters

Dear Sir/Madam,

Concentrated Inspection Campaign on STCW
From 1 September to 30 November 2022
In Tokyo and Paris MOU regions

The Tokyo Memorandum of Understanding (Tokyo MOU) region in conjunction with the Paris Memorandum of Understanding (Paris MOU) region will launch a Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) from 1 September to 30 November 2022.

The purpose of this CIC is to:

- 1) have a better understanding on the training and certification situation of crew members in each party to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW Convention) and on board ships of various flag States;
- 2) check the arrangements made by the shipping company for the performance of new duties by the crew members; and
- 3) check the implementation of relevant requirements on watchkeeping and rest on board.

The CIC will be conducted in conjunction with regular port state control inspections. Each ship will be subjected to only one inspection under this CIC (from each MOU) during the period of the campaign. Non-compliance with the issues highlighted in the CIC will lead to the issuance of deficiencies and in severe cases, detention of the vessel. The results of the campaign will be analysed, and findings will be presented to the governing bodies of the MOUs for submission to the IMO.

Port State Control Officers (PSCOs) will use a list of 10 questions to:

- 1) confirm that the number of seafarers serving on board and their certificates are in conformity with the relevant provisions of STCW and the applicable safe manning requirements of the Administration;
- 2) confirm that all seafarers serving on board who are required to be certificated in accordance with the STCW Convention hold an appropriate certificate or a valid dispensation, or provide documentary proof that an application for an endorsement has been submitted to the Administration;
- 3) confirm that the seafarers on board are in possession of a valid medical certificate as required by STCW;
- 4) confirm that the watch schedules and hours of rest indicate compliance with the STCW requirements; and
- 5) confirm that the seafarers are familiar with their duties and communication effectiveness on board.

The questionnaire has been published on the website (<http://www.tokyo-mou.org>) of the Tokyo MOU.

In order to facilitate the masters, managers and owners of Hong Kong registered ships in preparation for the upcoming CIC, Guidance to Hong Kong Registered Ships for preparation of the Concentrated Inspection Campaign on STCW is enclosed in Annex 1 for your reference. You are advised to distribute this circular letter and the guidance to your respective vessels and ensure that all the shipboard staffs are fully aware of the campaign.

Should you have any queries, please contact Senior Surveyor of the Cargo Ships Safety Section as follows:

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Fax: (852) 2545 0556
E-mail: ss_css@mardep.gov.hk

Yours faithfully,

No signature on website copy

(Nelson HO)

Senior Surveyor of Ships / Cargo Ships Safety Section
for Director of Marine

Encl.: Annex 1