Marine Notice Nr. 04/2022,
23/08/2022

Subject: "Joint Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) from 01 September to 30 November 2022"

Ref.: Paris MoU and Tokyo MoU CIC on STCW Press Release, 01 August 2022.

Summary: The PSC's joint Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) starts on 1 September. The PSC regimes will maintain their focus on crew certification and competencies. The G-B ISR provides particular emphasis upon the proper implementation of the respective requirements for vessels flying the Guinea-Bissau flag.

Background

1. Member Authorities of the Tokyo, Paris, Black Sea, and Indian Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) on Port State Control will launch a joint "Concentrated Inspection Campaign" (CIC) on IMO STCW requirements. Attached to this Marine Notice are the press releases and CIC questionnaires on STCW. Every year, the PSC regimes focus on a specific area for a three-month period. This CIC is commonly initiated by the Paris and Tokyo MoUs and will be joined by the majority of other PSC regimes. Already some years ago, the Paris and Tokyo MoUs agreed to carry out a CIC on STCW lasting three months, from 1 September until 30 November 2022. Nearly all other PSC regimes – such as the Black Sea, Caribbean, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean, Riyadh, and Vina del Mar MoUs – have agreed to join this campaign

2. It is expected that the Port State Control Officers (PSCO) will maintain their focus on crew certification and competencies and will be using a questionnaire consisting of ten (10) selected questions developed by the Tokyo and Paris MoUs in raising the awareness of shipowners, operators, and crew on the specific requirements in the STCW Convention and Code.

Objective

3. The Guinea-Bissau International Ships Registry (G-B I.S.R.), with the overall objective to avoid potential detentions for vessels flying the Guinea-Bissau flag during the Joint Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) by Tokyo, Paris, Black Sea, and Indian MoUs requires all addressed parties to ensure that ship's procedures and measures in place conform with the relevant provisions of the IMO STCW Convention and Code.

Operational Procedure

4. The basis for the CIC in 2022 is laid down in IMO Res. A.1155(32) "Procedures for Port State Control, 2021", with very detailed instructions provided in Appendix 11 "Guidelines for Port State Control Officers on certification of seafarers, manning and hours of rest".

5. The checklist contains ten aspects to confirm that the ship's crew is certified as per the STCW requirements and by the Minimum Safe Manning certificate of the vessel. For the necessary safe operation of the ship, the Port State Control Officers (PCSOs) are expected to focus on newly joined crew members

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in view of their familiarization with regular and emergency duties. Bridge procedures, such as voyage planning, rest hours, and the watchkeeping schedule, will also be subject to detailed investigation.

6. The campaign on STCW aims to confirm among others and on a priority basis that:

.1 The number of seafarers serving on board and their certificates are in conformity with the relevant provisions of STCW Convention and Code and the applicable safe manning requirements as determined by the G-B ISR.

.2 All seafarers serving on board, who are required to be certificated in accordance with 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 G-B ISR.

.3 The seafarers on board hold a valid medical certificate as required by STCW Convention.

.4 The watch-keeping schedules and hours of rest indicate compliance with the requirements of STCW Convention and Code.

Deficiencies Recording

7. When deficiencies within the context of the PSC CIC are potentially identified, actions by the Port State may vary from recording a deficiency and instructing the master to rectify it within a certain period of time, to detaining the ship until serious deficiencies have been rectified. In the case of detention, publication in the monthly detention lists of the Tokyo, Paris, Black Sea, and Indian MoU web sites will take place.

Suggested Recommendations by the G-B I.S.R.

8. The G-B ISR in line with priority policy objectives reflected within the "Code of Operation of the International Ships Registry of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau" recommends to Owners/ISM Operators, Agents and all interested parties especially during the PSC CIC the following:

.1 Check if the Muster List is up to date and crew members are familiar with their assigned duties.
.2 Keep the hours of rest updated.
.3 Evaluate the effectiveness of familiarization by the Master and officers in charge.
.4 Familiarize the crew with their duties and the additional checklist.

For the Guinea-Bissau International Ships Registry

Office of the General Ships Registrar

Attached
Paris MoU & Tokyo MoU, Press Release CIC on STCW, 01 August 2022 (p. 3) and Questionnaire (p.1)

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