



Merchant Marine Notice -MMN-22-002

To: DEPUTY REGISTRARS, SHIP OWNERS/ISM OPERATORS/RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS/SHIPPING AGENTS/GENERAL SAFETY INSPECTORS

Reference: Polar Code Inspection Campaign from Monday 13 June to 01 July 2022 (first period) and from Monday 01 August to Friday 19 August 2022 (second period).

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REFERENCE

The Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (Paris MoU) will launch an inspection campaign on Polar Code. Attached is the press release and CIC questionnaire.

PURPOSE

The International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE) requires all addressed parties to ensure that ship's procedure and measures in place with respect to Polar Code are checked in details for compliance.

IMO Resolution MSC. 385 (94) and MEPC. 264 (68) adopted International Code for ships operating in Polar Waters (Polar Code) which came into force on 01 January 2017.

CONTENT

The Inspection Campaign will be held by the Paris MOU for two periods. The first period of the inspection campaign will be held from Monday 13 June to Friday 1 July 2022 and the second period from Monday 1 August to Friday 19 August 2022.

The inspection campaign is additional to the regular Concentrated Inspection Campaigns

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and is held in a different time of the year due to the seasonal voyage plans of the ships sailing to the Polar area.

A ship will be subject to only one inspection related to this inspection campaign during this period. The Port State Control Officers (PSCOs) will be using a questionnaire consisting of nine (9) selected questions developed by the Paris MOUs to assess whether the information and equipment provided onboard complies with the relevant conventions. And the master and officers are qualified and familiar with the requirements of the Polar Code. Of course, Polar Code elements in SOLAS and MARPOL will also be taken into account.

Reasons for such a campaign include:

- The polar waters have a unique polar ecosystem that is vulnerable to human influences such as ship operation.
- The polar waters impose additional navigational demands beyond those normally encountered in non-polar waters.
- The polar waters impose additional demands on the ships, their systems, and operations beyond the existing requirements for normal operations at sea.

Actions Required from Owners/ISM Operators/Flag Inspectors/Recognized Organizations during the Inspection Campaign for Vessels trading in Paris MOU.

1. Owners/Operators to determine the level of compliance with the requirements of the Polar Code.
2. Owners/Operators to create awareness amongst ship crews and ship owners regarding the importance of compliance with the provisions of the Polar Code, the increased risk to ships operating in polar waters and the protection of the vulnerable polar environment.
3. All Vessels currently trading within the Paris MOU - ISM operators need to contact the Master in order to complete the attached questionnaire to be used by PSCOs. The complete questionnaire needs to be submitted by the Owners/ISM operators to our Flag Administration not later than **12th June 2022**. Owners/ISM Operators will submit the attached questionnaire duly signed/stamped by Master to IMMARBE's Technical Department technicalservices@immarbe.com.



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The above actions will remain in force during the above-mentioned periods of the inspection Campaign on Polar Code.

Look forward for your cooperation and assistance.

The Notice was issued in Belize city, Belize 7 June 2022

A blue ink signature of Eng. Eduardo Simon.

Eng. Eduardo Simon
Technical Manager
IMMARBE



A blue ink signature of Annette Garel (Mrs.).

Annette Garel (Mrs.)
Senior Deputy Registrar
IMMARBE