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FLEET SAFETY LETTER 123020.GEN – Rev. 1

11 February 2021

Applicable to: This FLEET SAFETY LETTER supersedes FLEET / SAFETY LETTER 1123020.GEN dated 30 December 2020 and should be brought to the attention of ship-owners, ship managers, operators, Masters of Vanuatu-registered ships and Recognized Organizations

IBC Code Amendments affecting the Transport and Handling of Hazardous and Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk on Offshore Support Vessels

1. The latest amendments to the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (IBC Code) were adopted by IMO Resolutions MEPC.318(74) and MSC.460(101) and come into effect on 1 January 2021.
2. Guidance on the timing of replacement of existing IBC Code certificates by revised certificates as a consequence of the entry into force of amendments to chapters 17 and 18 of the IBC Code has been published as MSC-MEPC.5/Circ.7/Rev.1.
3. The approved guidance with regard to the replacement of an existing certificate by a revised certificate advises to issue the revised certificate before the entry into force of the amendments to the IBC Code.
4. Notwithstanding the entry into force date and the guidance approved by IMO, and considering the impact of the amendments, Vanuatu Maritime Services Limited (VMSL), the Administrator of the Registry, accepts the application of the current carriage requirements to products currently being carried onboard Offshore Support Vessels.
5. Products which have been amended are permitted to be carried under the existing Certificate of Fitness (i.e. valid CoF issued before 1-Jan-2021) until 31 December 2021 provided that these products are listed on the existing approved cargo list and the Coastal State has no objection to the continued operation with the pre-Jan-2021 carriage requirements during the transitional period.
6. OSVs must meet the IBC Code amendments for any request to add new products to the cargo list on or after 1 January 2021.



Roderick A. Acquie
by the direction of the
Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs
The Republic of Vanuatu

