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FLEET / SAFETY LETTER 011519.GEN

15 January 2019

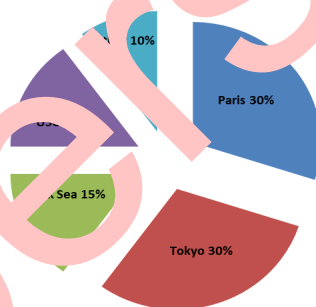
Applicable to: This FLEET / SAFETY LETTER should be brought to the attention of ship owners, ship managers, operators and Masters of Vanuatu-registered ships, and Recognized Organizations.

Additional Flag State Statutory Survey

1. Upon review of the Port State Control (PSC) statistics for the Vanuatu International Ship Registry for the year 2018, it has been determined that:

- 1a. the number of detentions increased compared to 2017;
- 1b. All vessels detained are cargo ships of 500 gross tonnage and above;
- 1c. 90% of the vessels detained are older than 15 years of age; and
- 1d. the majority of the detentions occurred in four (4) of the major PSC regimes.

Percentage of Detention by PSC Regime in 2018



2. In an effort to reduce the number of detentions, beginning on **1 March 2019**, cargo ships* of 500 gross tonnage and above, older than 15 years old visiting any ports within the Paris, Tokyo or Black Sea PSC Regime or the United States are required to hold a Statement of Fact confirming the completion of an Additional Flag State Statutory Survey (*Additional Survey*) prior to visiting any of such ports.

For the purpose of this Fleet Safety Letter, cargo ships are those which contain any of the following descriptions under "SERVICE" as identified on the Certificate of Registry: *BULK CARRIER, DRY CARGO, CONTAINER, REEFER, GENERAL CARGO, MULTI-PURPOSE CARGO, REFRIGERATED CARGO, RO RO, and SUPPLY.*

2a. The Statement shall be issued upon satisfactory completion of the *Additional Survey* which shall be equivalent in scope to annual surveys of the following certificates:

- Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate (SOLAS)
- Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate (SOLAS)
- International Oil Pollution Prevention Certificates (MARPOL Annex I)
- International Air Pollution Prevention Certificate (MARPOL Annex VI)
- International Load Line Certificate (Load Line)

2b. The *Additional Survey* shall include checking for deficiencies relative to possible safety management system failures.

2c. The Statement shall be issued by the Recognized Organization that issued the relevant SOLAS, MARPOL and Load Line statutory certificates, as applicable to the vessel.

2d. The Statement shall be valid for six (6) months from the survey completion date and the following text should be used to prepare it:

The Additional Flag State Statutory Survey required by the Vanuatu International Ship Fleet Safety Letter 011519.GEN has been completed on (date) at (location) for (vessel name) items associated with the statutory certificate(s) issued by (Name of Recognized Organization) on behalf of the Republic of Vanuatu.

3. The *Additional Survey* must be completed prior to visiting any of the designated ports or, if it is not possible, during the first visit to any of the designated ports. The vessel should not depart the first visited designated port within any of the 4 PSC regimes listed under item (2) until the *Additional Survey* is completed and the Statement is issued, unless deficiencies are found, then, short term certificates shall be issued (see item 5 below).

4. The Statement could be issued based on the mandatory statutory surveys required to endorse the statutory certificates listed under 2a above if the surveys are completed within the permissible surveys windows and prior to entering any of the applicable ports. Mandatory statutory surveys completed prior to 1 February 2019 cannot be credited for the issuance of the Statement. The validity of the Statement shall be six (6) months from the date the certificates are endorsed.



5. If deficiencies are found during the *Additional Survey*, then instructions for the issuance of short term certificates described in section 3.4 of the **Instructions to the Recognized Organizations** are to be followed. Upon rectification of the deficiencies, the Statement should be issued using as completion date of the *Additional Survey* the date when the surveyor issues the short term certificates.

4a. If the deficiencies relate to the International Safety Management Code, the attending surveyor must send the report to the Administration as soon as possible. Upon review of the report, the Administration will decide whether a ship and/or company audit is warranted and provide instructions to the Recognized Organization that issued the Safety Management Certificate and the Document of Compliance.

6. The report and the statement are to be forwarded to: email@vanuatuships.com.

7. Owners and managers of affected vessels must contact the vessel's recognized organization to schedule The *Additional Survey*.

8. The need of this policy will be assessed in 12 months from its publication.



Rodolphe Acquie
by the direction of the
Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs
The Republic of Vanuatu