



INDIAN OCEAN MOU ON PORT STATE CONTROL SECRETARIAT

Press Release

Twenty-third Meeting of the IOMOU held via Correspondence Mode

The Indian Ocean Memorandum of Understanding (IOMOU) on port State control held its **Twenty-third Committee Meeting** via Correspondence Mode from 31 August to 18 September 2020. This meeting was chaired by Ms. Beatrice Nyamoita, Deputy Director, Shipping & Maritime, State Department of Transport, and Kenya.

The meeting was officially declared opened by the Chair on 31.08.2020 AM, circulating an opening speech to all the Members, Observers and Industry stake holders of the Indian Ocean MoU. She also requested members and observers to provide their feedback/comments related to all the meeting documents through the Comment Sheet (Doc no. IOCM23/WP.3).

Comment sheet (IOCM23/WP.3), was made available to all the Members on the IOMOU website for providing comments.

Documents were categorized as per the contents as follows:

1. Reports from the Correspondence Group;
2. Information documents;
3. Documents/Reports received from the Observers, Industry Stakeholders and other Organizations;
4. Documents related to the IOMOU website and Information System;
5. Administrative and Financial Documents;
6. Tentative future meetings schedules.

Comment sheets (IOCM23/WP.3) were received from the majority of the member Authorities with their valuable feedback, comments, suggestions as necessary, added with future course of actions, as required from the Secretariat.

The Committee deliberated on the enhancement of the New Inspection Regime (NIR). To stream line it further, based on the received comments, the discussion is kept open until next meeting.

The Correspondence Group presented the report of the Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) on **Emergency System and procedure** which was carried out from 1 September to 30 November 2019. The Committee also noted that during the course of the campaign, the member States carried out 1497 port State control inspections on individual vessels. Of these PSC inspections, 1274 inspections were carried out with a CIC questionnaire and eight ships were detained as a direct result of the Emergency systems, fire pumps, etc. issues. The Committee noted the information.

The Committee approved amendments to Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and PSC Manual with respect to the Assembly Resolution A.1138(31) Port State Control Procedure.

The Committee also agreed, in conjunction with the Paris MoU and the Tokyo MoU, to postpone CIC on “Stability in General” in 2021, due to COVID -19 pandemic outbreak.

The Committee extended time limit for completing the work on revamping of the IOMOU website and IOCIS Portal, which could not complete due to imposition of lockdown in India. The Committee adopted the 2019 Annual Report including the overview of the activities of the IOMOU for the period and the statistics including inspections. A total number of 5943 inspections were carried out in 2019. Out of these 5943 inspections, 2852 inspections had deficiencies and the total number of deficiencies were 10960. Serious deficiencies were noted by the PSCOs led to the detention of 232 ships. The number of inspections in 2019 increased as compared to 2018 whereas, the detention percentage decreased from 4.42% as recorded in year 2018 to 3.90%. The Committee noted that the average number of the deficiencies per inspection in 2019 (1.84) has slightly decreased as compared with the year 2018 (2.07).

The Committee noted the status of the Co-operation programme between IOMOU and Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) on fishing vessels.

The Committee approved its annual Theme for the year 2021 as

“Let’s voyage together to make the world COVID free ... with courage, safety, Integrity and Value for sustainable shipping”.

The Committee formed Correspondence Groups for new topics such as making **Procedure for PSC Inspection through the Remote Location and developing Guidelines to Increased Level of Inspections.**

The Committee noted the submission made by the representatives for IACS and ACS on recent activities particularly COVID-19 guidelines and other related documents.

On behalf of the member States, Ms. Beatrice Nyamoita concluded the meeting on 18.09.2020, by mentioning that the Committee has finalised most of the documents, however, documents which needs face to face discussion will be taken up during the next Committee meeting. She thanked the Secretariat, member Authorities and Vice Chairman Mr. Tobela Gqabu (South Africa) for their kind support, assistance and valuable time, provided with the best possible resources at this time for communicating through phone calls, messages and emails on important matters and made the 23rd Annual PSCC meeting successful and meaningful.

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