

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **BLACK SEA MOU HELD ITS NINETEENTH PORT STATE CONTROL COMMITTEE MEETING IN ODESA, UKRAINE**

**Odesa, Ukraine** – Representatives of the Port State Control Committee, the governing body under the Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control in the Black Sea Region (BS MOU), met in Odesa, Ukraine, for the Nineteenth session from 17 to 19 April 2018. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Hayri HASANDAYIOGLU – PSC Co-ordinator Maritime Administration of the Republic of Turkey. Head of State Service of Ukraine for Transport Safety Maritime and River Transport made a welcome speech and officially declared the opening of the meeting. Captain Dmytro PETRENKO stressed the vital role of port State control for promotion of safer shipping and cleaner seas. He expressed that Ukraine praised the great achievement and success of the BS MOU during the years. He reassured the full cooperation and continuous contribution from Ukraine to the BS MOU.

The BS MOU was concluded on 7 April 2000 and came into operation on 19 December 2000 after the first preparatory meeting in Varna in 1999. At present, the BS MOU consists of 6 member Authorities: Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, the Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine. The Maritime Authority of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the United States Coast Guard, the International Maritime Organization, the International Labour Organization and the Paris, Mediterranean, West and Central Africa MOUs as well as the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution are associated with the BS MOU as observers.

The nineteenth meeting of the Port State Control Committee in Odesa was attended by the member States of Bulgaria, Georgia, Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine. Representatives of the Azerbaijan participated in the meeting as observer. The Mediterranean MOU was represented by the delegation of Turkey. The member Romanian Naval Authority and observers from IMO, ILO, Paris MOU, Riyadh MOU, ABUJA MOU, USCG, Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution were unable to attend.

The main objective of the Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control in the Black Sea Region is to establish an effective PSC regime in the Black Sea region through cooperation and harmonization of the PSC activities of the member Authorities. It aims at eliminating sub-standard shipping, so as to promote maritime safety, to protect the marine environment and to safeguard working and living conditions on board.

The Committee considered BS MOU and Members performance analysis using regional MOUs BGW list and targeting system data presented in the respective annual reports. The Committee agreed further global analysis of the performance of the member States ship fleet using inspection and detention data of the PSC regimes.

The Committee discussed matters related to the detention appeal and detention review procedures agreed to publish national detention appeal procedures and BS MOU Detention Review Procedures on the web-site separately in order to avoid misinterpretation, understanding. The Committee further agreed to amend BS MOU detention review procedures in order facilitation review of the detention review procedures for Flags to apply for MOU detention review.

The report of the CIC on Safety of Navigation including ECDIS, carried out in September to November of 2017, was discussed. Although the results showed a good level of compliance, the Committee agreed that both flag States and industry should continue to pay attention to the non-compliance or inadequacy of the exhibition of navigation/signal lights in accordance with the requirements of COLREG72 which a significant potential danger to the vessel itself and overall safety. High rate of non-compliances observed on board ships 25 years and older indicates a potential risk.

The Committee reviewed and approved arrangements and preparations for the joint CIC with the Paris MOU and Tokyo MOU on MARPOL Annex VI; and agreed to carry out CIC on MARPOL Annex VI during the period of 01 September – 30 November 2018. The Committee nominated Maritime Administration of Turkey to act as campaign co-ordinator. The Committee considered possible topics for future CICs and agreed to carry out a CIC on Emergency Systems, including electrical systems and equipment covered by SOLAS Chapter II-1 in 2019 and CIC on stability in general 2020.

The Committee observed with satisfaction the continuous progress achieved in the implementation of regional and interregional Port State Control Officers Exchange programme. In this regard, the Committee expressed appreciation to the Authorities for their support, participation and co-operation.

The Committee considered outcome of the 7<sup>th</sup> IMO Workshop for PSC/Agreement Secretaries and Database Managers agreed to take follow-up action on the recommendation, development with the Data Base Manager of the Black Sea MoU, a pilot project on a feedback mechanism informing PSC regimes about the recording of flag State comment.

The Committee elected Captain Dmytro PETRENKO, Head of the State Service of Ukraine for Transport Safety Maritime and River Transport, as the new Chairman and Captain Alexandar ILIEV, Harbour Master Port of Burgas the Bulgarian Maritime Administration, as the new Vice Chairman of the Committee.

The 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Port State Control Committee will be held in Burgas, Bulgaria, on April 2019.

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