

PRESS RELEASE

CONCENTRATED INSPECTION CAMPAIGN (CIC) ON STCW

The member Authorities of the Memorandum of Understanding on PSC in the Black Sea Region (BS MoU) will conduct a concentrated inspection campaign on Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping (STCW).

The three-month campaign will start on September 1st, 2022 and end on November 30th, 2022 under the co-ordination of Bulgarian Maritime Administration. The campaign shall be conducted simultaneously with the Paris and Tokyo Memoranda and some other regional PSC regimes.

The purpose of the CIC on STCW is to ensure that;

- to have a better understanding on the training and certification situation of crew members and confirm that the number of seafarers serving on board and their certificates are in conformity with the relevant provisions of STCW Convention and Code and the applicable safe manning requirements in each party to the Convention and on-board ships of various flag States;
- to check the arrangements made by the shipping company for the performance of new duties by the crew members and the implementation of relevant requirements on watchkeeping and rest on board and confirm that all seafarers serving on board, who are required to be certificated in accordance with STCW Convention, hold an appropriate certificate or a valid dispensation, or provide documentary proof that an application for an endorsement has been submitted to the Flag State Administration;
- the seafarers on board are medically fit and in possession of a valid medical certificate as required by STCW Convention; and
- the watch-keeping schedules and hours of rest are in compliance with the requirements of STCW Convention and Code.

During the campaign period, member Authorities of the BS MoU will inspect, within the resources available, as many ships as possible in conjunction with routine port State control inspections. A ship will be subject to only one inspection under this CIC during the period of the campaign.

The campaign will target compliance on all vessels, regardless of type, and will examine specific items related to the campaign in conjunction with the regular Port State Control inspection. The CIC will also assist to raise awareness of shipowners, operators and crew on STCW.

Port State Control Officers (PSCOs) will use a list of 10 questions to assess the conformity of the number of specific requirements in the SWTCW Convention and Code.

If deficiencies are found, actions by the Port State Control Officer may vary from recording a deficiency and instructing the master to rectify it within a certain period to detaining the ship until serious deficiencies have been rectified. All inspections will be inserted into the Black Sea Information System (BSIS) and will be published online on the MoU website.

The results of the campaign shall be analysed and findings will be presented to the Black Sea MoU Committee for submission to the International Maritime Organization.

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Contact

Black Sea MoU Secretariat

Beylerbeyi Mah. Abdullahaga Cad. No.16/A Istanbul 34676 Turkey

Telephone: +90 216 342 5887 Fax: +90 216 334 3483

E-mail: secretariat@bsmou.org Web-site: www.bsmou.org