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To: DEPUTY REGISTRARS, SHIP OWNERS/ISM OPERATORS/RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS/SHIPPING AGENTS/GENERAL SAFETY INSPECTORS

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Reference: Survey and Certification – Inventory of Hazardous Material

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## 1. PURPOSE

The International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE) with the aim of providing Ship Owners, ISM Operators and Recognized Organizations detailed information on the requirements for the survey and certification for the Inventory Hazardous Material (IHM).

These requirements are in compliance with the following:

- Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009 – The Hong Kong Convention.
- 2015 Guidelines for the Development of the Inventory of Hazardous Materials adopted by Resolution MEPC.269(68).
- 2012 Guidelines for the Survey and Certification of Ships under the Hong Kong Convention adopted by Resolution MEPC.222(64).
- European Union Ship Recycling Regulation (EU-SRR) adopted by the European Union Regulation No. 1257/2013.
- Guidance on the Inventory of Hazardous Material published by EMSA.

## 2. APPLICATION

The Hong Kong Convention in its Article 3 and the EU-SRR in its Article 12 require that all new ships and existing ships of 500GT complies with these requirements and holds a proper certification for Inventory of Hazardous Material (IHM).

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In compliance with the Article 3.4 of the Hong Kong Convention “No more favourable treatment Clause” and in view that Belize is not a ratifying country of the Hong Kong Convention and has vessels calling ports of Ratifying Countries, a Statement of Compliance for Inventory of Hazardous Material (SOC-IHM) must be issued before calling any ratifying Country when the Convention enter into force in the event the Belize Government continues not to be party of this Convention.

In compliance with the Article 12 of the EU-SRR “Requirements for ships flying the flag of a third country” and in view that Belize has vessels calling ports of European Countries, all Belize registered vessels of 500GT and above must be surveyed and issued with a Statement of Compliance for Inventory of Hazardous Material (SOC-IHM) before calling any Country member of the European Union.

### 3. SURVEY

3.1. All Ships falling under above item 2 shall be survey in compliance with Regulation 10 of the Hong Kong Convention as specify below:

3.1.1. An **Initial Survey** before the ship is put in service or before the Statement of Compliance on Inventory of Hazardous Materials is issued. This survey shall verify that Part I of the Inventory required by Regulation 5 of the Hong Kong Convention is in accordance with the Convention.

3.1.2. A **Renewal Survey** every five years. This survey shall verify that Part I of the Inventory required by Regulation 5 of the Hong Kong Convention is in accordance with the Convention.

3.1.3. An **Additional Survey** may be made at the request of the shipowner after a change, replacement, or significant repair of the structure, equipment, fittings, arrangements and material. The survey shall be such as to ensure that any such change, replacement, or significant repair has been made in the way that the ship continues to comply with the requirements of the Convention, and that Part I of the Inventory is amended as necessary; and

3.1.4. A Final Survey prior to the ship being taken out of service and before the recycling of the ship has started.



3.2. The initial and renewal survey must be harmonized with the surveys required by other applicable statutory instruments of the Organization following the parameters of the Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC) in its latest version.

3.3. All Ships intended to call any Country member of the European Union must also address all requirements stated in Article 12 (Requirements for ships flying the flag of a third country) of the European Union Ship Recycling Regulation (EU-SRR).

#### **4. CERTIFICATION**

4.1. The Statement of Compliance issued to any ship survey in accordance with the Hong Kong Convention must be in accordance with the format (Appendix 3) provided by the Convention.

4.2. The Statement of Compliance issued to any ship survey in accordance with the European Union Ship Recycling Regulation (EU-SRR) must be in accordance with the format (Annex 3) provided by the Guidance on inspection of ships by the port States in accordance with Regulation (EU) 1257/2013 on ship recycling, inspections from the EU port States to enforce provisions of the ship recycling regulation.

4.3. Any Statement of Compliance issued shall be valid for a period not exceeding five years.

#### **5. RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

All Recognized Organization acting on behalf of this Administration must submit the following in order to upgrade its authorization and be able to certify a Belize Flagged Vessel in accordance with the Hong Kong Convention and the European Union Ship Recycling Regulation (EU-SRR):

- 5.1. Official Application Letter addressed to IMMARBEL Technical Department,
- 5.2. Survey Procedures addressing the requirements of the Hong Kong Convention and the EU-SRR,
- 5.3. Statement of Compliance Formats,
- 5.4. Survey Reports, and
- 5.5. Any other relevant information and/or document.



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Applications shall be sent to the following e-mails [technicalofficer@immarbe.com](mailto:technicalofficer@immarbe.com), [technicalofficer2@immarbe.com](mailto:technicalofficer2@immarbe.com) and [techsupport@immarbe.com](mailto:techsupport@immarbe.com).

## 6. FEES

Applicable fee will be in accordance with the Merchant Shipping Notice MSN-0039r1.

## 7. ACTIONS REQUESTED

This Administration would like to encourage all Shipowners, Operators, Deputy Registrar and Recognized Organizations to take note of the contents of this Notice and to ensure its provisions are enforced on board vessels registered at IMMARBE as deemed necessary.

This Merchant Marine Notice is to be brought to the attention of Owners/ISM Operators, Masters and Recognized Organizations and be implemented forthwith.

Look forward for your cooperation and assistance.

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The Notice was issued in Belize city, Belize 27/05/2020

Eng. Eduardo Simon  
Technical Manager  
IMMARBE



Annette Garel (Mrs.)  
Senior Deputy Registrar  
IMMARBE

Any queries related to this Notice should be directed to:  
Eng. Eduardo Simon  
Technical Manager  
IMMARBE HEAD OFFICE  
E-mail: [technicalofficer@immarbe.com](mailto:technicalofficer@immarbe.com)

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