



SUBJECT: Enhanced Monitoring Scheme

REFERENCE:

- a) *Antigua and Barbuda Merchant Shipping Act (MSA) 2006 and related Regulations (Statutory Instruments, Directives and Circulars, as applicable).*

TO: Ship-owners, Managers, Masters and officers, Recognized Organizations and Surveyors/Inspectors of Antigua and Barbuda flagged ships

1. INTRODUCTION

This Information Notice explains the Antigua and Barbuda Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping (ADOMS) Enhanced Monitoring Scheme, through a process of special inspections and other measures, for some ships and/or companies, which have been identified as requiring improvement in maintaining the appropriate flag standards.

2. SUBJECT

1. Application

1. The Enhanced Monitoring Scheme applies to all Antigua and Barbuda registered ships, where there is evidence of declining standards in operations or maintenance. This includes evidence of a lack of compliance with International Conventions or flag national requirements, or where a trend towards noncompliance has been identified.

2. Background

1. ADOMS is fully committed to ensuring that all ships on the flag are maintained to high standards and in compliance with International Conventions and flag requirements.
2. When ships are not at the required standards then additional flag action is required.
3. Ships which require such additional attention may be placed on the Enhanced Monitoring Scheme as defined in this Information Notice.

3. Enhanced Monitoring Scheme and Activation

1. Any ship which has been detained on more than one occasion within a 24-month period, either by port State control (PSC) or flag, will be placed under the Enhanced Monitoring Scheme.
2. Ships may also be placed on the Enhanced Monitoring Scheme, if the results of reported PSC inspections show evidence of a trend towards noncompliance with International Conventions, or flag requirements. This would include ineffective implementation of the safety management system (SMS) procedures, evidence of poor operating standards, or maintenance.
3. Ships which are placed on the Enhanced Monitoring Scheme will be subject to more detailed and targeted flag State inspections and the Annual Safety Inspection regime (ASI) will be suspended.
4. When a ship is placed on the Enhanced Monitoring Scheme the company will be contacted by the Administration, with reasons for the decision and with the schedule of the more detailed and targeted inspections. The company should make arrangements for this inspection and all costs are for the owner's/operator's account.
5. The first more detailed and targeted inspection will be within one (1) month of the ship being on the Enhanced Monitoring Scheme, with subsequent inspections due at three (3) month intervals.
6. At the second and any subsequent more detailed and targeted inspections, the flag will review the ship's performance, resulting in:
 1. Removal from the Enhanced Monitoring Scheme, if the Administration is satisfied that the ship's condition has improved and there are no deficiencies, or only minor deficiencies.
 2. Remaining on the Enhanced Monitoring Scheme, if the Administration is not satisfied that the ship's condition has improved and there are outstanding deficiencies.

4. Next Steps

1. The Enhanced Monitoring Scheme is intended to achieve satisfactory improvement within a twelve (12) month period (four (4) more detailed and targeted inspections) and it is expected that the ship will be removed from the Scheme by this time.
2. Any ship remaining on the Enhanced Monitoring Scheme after twelve (12) months will be specially reviewed, in consultation with the Director, for eligibility to be on the flag register. This may result in deletion of the ship from flag registration.

Issued by

Antigua and Barbuda
Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping
(ADOMS) St. John's