



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY

MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-221

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To: Masters, Legal Representatives, Owners/Operators of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Recognized Organizations, Classification Societies.

Subject: New Guidelines related to the Paris Memorandum of Understanding (Paris MOU)

**References: Resolution N°.106-24-DGMM of March 24th, 2011
Resolution No. 106-26-DGMM of July 2nd, 2008
Decree Law N°. 7 of February 10, 1998
Decree Law N°. 2 of January 17, 1980
Law No. 57 of August 06, 2008
SOLAS 74 and its Amendments**

This Merchant Marine Supersedes MMC No. 173

1. The purpose of this circular is to provide the new guidelines adopted by the Panama Maritime Authority, regarding the Occasional Inspection on board Panamanian flagged vessels.
2. This Administration, based on the decreased of detentions within the Paris MOU, as a result of the efficient mechanisms of monitoring of detained vessels, within the Paris MOU, and based on the inclusion of the Republic of Panama in the White List of this MOU, has determine to revoke the Resolution No. 106-26-DGMM of July 2, 2008, and to implement the Resolution No. 106-24-DGMM of March 24, 2011, as follows:
 - Suspend the Occasional Inspection on board Panamanian flagged vessels of 20 years or more of construction, for which next port of arrival is a country member of the Paris MOU.
 - The General Directorate of Merchant Marine can consider to request an Occasional Inspection to every vessel of 20 years or more of construction, which repeatedly incur in multiple detentions among the Memorandum of Understanding.
3. The General Directorate of Merchant Marine adopted a previous technical analysis for the authorization of a new registry in the National Merchant Marine of every vessel of 20 years or more of construction. This technical analysis shall include, among other things, a revision of the history of detentions of the vessel, as well as its performance in other registries.

4. The General Directorate of Merchant Marine can reject the registry of any vessel which detentions show a high level of non-compliance with the International Conventions ratified by the Republic of Panama, and may affect the performance of the National Merchant Marine.

March, 2011

**Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any request should be directed to:
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