



# Merchant Marine **Notice**

Panama Maritime Authority  
General Directorate of Merchant Marine  
Control and Compliance Department

F-34  
(DCCM)  
V.04

## **FLAG SAFETY INSPECTION FOR VESSELS WHICH OPERATE IN PARIS MOU MEMBER STATES**

No: **MMN-02/2022**

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1. As you are aware the Paris MoU implemented an initiative to identify high-quality ships and flag registries by providing incentives to encourage quality operations. This initiative is called White List, and through this initiative, high-quality vessels should be recognized and rewarded for their commitment to safety and quality.
2. Panama currently belongs to the Paris MoU White List; however, we have detected an increase on detentions within the Paris MoU jurisdiction. We have detected also that among other reasons that one of the most common factor is related to the vessel's age. Being the most detained vessel, those older than 20 years of construction.
3. For the aforementioned and in order to maintain our whitelist status in the Paris MoU, this Administration has decided that all Panama flag vessels over 20 years of age that arrive at any port in the countries that are signatories of this MoU, shall be subject to a Flag safety inspection (ASI) each six (6) months.
4. Ship-owners are requested to provide full support to the duly approved ASI inspectors holding an Authorization to carry out this flag inspection. The inspection must be done in situ, no remote flag inspection should be allowed, and a full report must be sent through the platform and/or to our navigation and maritime safety department in cases where deficiencies are found and actions from the master, crew or company is requested.
5. This campaign is temporarily and is preventing possible detentions, and / or delays to vessels of the Panama Flag Registry.
6. Non-compliance with the provisions of this marine notice will be subject to monetary and administrative sanctions and if there is recurrence found, the removal/cancellation of the vessel from the flag registry may be applicable.



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Inquiries concerning the subject of this Merchant Marine Notice or any other request should be forward to:

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