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PRESS RELEASE

BLACK SEA MOU HELD ITS TENTH PORT STATE CONTROL COMMITTEE MEETING IN NOVOROSSIYSK

Novorossiysk, the Russian Federation – Representatives of the Port State Control Committee, the executive body under the Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control in the Black Region (BS MOU), met from 7 to 9 July 2009 in Novorossiyk, the Russian Federation, for its tenth session. The meeting was chaired by Captain Serban BERESCU, Depury Director General, Romanian Naval Authority Ministry of Transport, the Republic of Romania. Dr. Vitaly V. KLYUEV Deputy Director, Department of State Policy for Maritime and River Transport, Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation, made a welcome speech and declared open of the meeting. In his speech, Dr. KLYUEV reiterated the strategy and the policy of the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation for promotion of safe, secure and clean seas, and in particular in the area of the Black Sea.

The BS MoU was concluded in April 2000 and came into operation in 19 December 2002 for all littoral States of the Black Sea. At present, the BS MoU consists of six member Authorities, namely: Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, the Russian Federation, Turkey, Ukraine. The Authorities of the United States Coast Guard, the International Maritime Organization, the International Labour Organization and the Secretariats of the Mediterranean and West and Central Africa MoUs, Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution are associated with the BS MoU as observers. The tenth meeting of the Port State Control Committee in Novorossiysk was attended by representatives from all the members, except Ukraine and Georgia.

The Committee considering status of the member Authorities on the IMO Auditing scheme noted with appreciation of the Bulgaria, Romania, and the Russian Federation application for auditing, agreed to invite the member Authorities to apply for the IMO Audit.

The Committee agreed to grant observed status to the Paris MOU, expressed the view that through further active co-operation and collaboration with the Paris MOU, the Black Sea MOU will be well placed to respond to any challenges.

The Committee considered results of the concentrated inspection campaign (CIC) on Safety of Navigation, submitted by the campaign co-ordinator the Republic of Turkey Undersecretariat for Maritime Affiars, which was conducted from 1 September to 30 November 2008 jointly with the other regional Memoranda/Agreements. The Committee agreed to include the CIC Questionnarie and Guidance on Safety of Navigation in the PSC Manual.

The Committee reviewed progress of preparation to the joint CIC on Life Saving Applicances (SOLAS Chapter III) with the Paris MoU and the Tokyo MOU which is scheduled to take place during period of September-November 2009. The Committee also agreed to join Paris MOU and Tokyo MOU for a further joint CIC on Tanker Stability in 2010.

The Committee adopted an amendment to the Memorandum for inclusion of the Bunker Convention 2001 on the Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage (Bunker 2001) as one of the relevant instruments.

The Committee also approved the interim guidelines for inspection of anti-fouling system on ships. For further improvements of the PSC Manual the Committee agreed on the revision of the Manual in line with the progresses and requirements with an effective date of January 1, 2010.

The Committee gave its approval to the standard detention review application form and its publication on the BS MOU web-site with addition of relevant explanations in due time.

The Committee considered annual report and detailed statistics for 2008 and agreed in principle their publication within scope of the existing practises. As a further step for providing more transparent and timely information on BS MoU PSC activities, focussing on the substandard ships the Committee gave its approvals to publication of the annual ship detention list starting with 2008 annual report. The Committe agreed on the criteria for the publication of the ship watch list agreed to publish the BS MOU *Ship Watch List* on the BS MOU public web-site which includes ships detained three or more times in the last three year period.Those ships shall be dsiplayed on the BSIS as "watch list member".

The Committee observed the continuous progress made on implementation of the regional and interregional PCS Officers Exchange programmes with satisfaction.

The Committee unanimously elected Dr. Vitaly Klyuev (the Russian Federation) as Chairman for the next period and agreed to hold eleventh meeting in Istanbul, Turkey. Meeting is scheduled tentatively for 7-9 April 2010 to coincide with the signatory date of the Memorandum to conduct 10th anniversary celebration which the host Authority invited to make necessary arangments.

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