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PRESS RELEASE

CONCENTRATED INSPECTION CAMPAIGN ON TANKER DAMAGE STABILITY COMPLIANCE

The six member Maritime Authorities (Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russian Federation, Turkey, Ukraine) of the Black Sea Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control will start a concentrated inspection campaign on Tanker Damage Stability compliance as of **1st September 2010** in parallel with the Paris MOU. The inspection campaign will last 3 months ending on 30 November 2010.

The CIC inspections will be conducted in conjunction with routine port State control inspections and during every port State control inspection within the Black Sea region.

In this context, for the purpose of interregional harmonization of the action, the Black Sea MOU will use the model of relevant Questionnaire developed by Paris MOU with a checklist of 9 selected areas and items of inspection. Purpose of the questionnaire is:

- To gather information regarding the application of damage stability to tankers
- To ensure existing IMO instruments are enforced in a consistent manner
- To minimise risks to tankers and the seafarers who operate them
- To minimise risks to the environment from loss of marine pollutants
- To ensure non-compliant vessels are indentified and brought into compliance

If deficiencies are found, the Port State Control Officer will conduct an in depth investigation on the tanker damage stability compliance.

All inspections will be inserted in the Black Sea Information System. The results of the campaign shall be analysed early next year and will be submitted to the Black Sea MOU Committee for submission to the IMO.

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