



# TECHNICAL INFORMATION

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## **Subject: [COVID-19] Guidelines on the enforcement of obligation under the EU Ship Recycling Regulation (EUSRR)**

The European Commission has recently published a Commission Notice providing guidelines on the enforcement of obligations under the EU ship recycling regulation (hereinafter referred to as the "EUSRR") related to the COVID-19.

In accordance with the notice, it is suggested to apply a harmonized approach on two specific COVID-19 related scenarios for a limited period of 6 months after the application date of the IHM-related obligation for existing EU flagged ships and Non-EU flagged ship calling at EU ports.(i.e. until 30 June 2021)

In this regard, we would like to inform all concerned of the summary of this notice as follows.

[Contents]

### **1. Summary of Commission Notice**

#### **1.1 Scenario 1 : Vessels without a valid IHM and/or accompanying certificate**

- In case the vessel may arrive at an EU port after 31 December 2020 without carrying onboard a valid IHM and/or accompanying certificate (or Statement of Compliance), the owner/master of the vessel needs to provide a PSCO with sufficient evidence that all possible measures were taken to undertake the work and get the certification. (e.g. service contract for sampling or a survey)
- In addition to the evidence mentioned above, the owner/master of the vessel may provide a justification why it was not possible to obtain a semi-completed IHM and associated certificate as referred in "Scenario 2" to the PSCO.
- During the PSC inspection, the PSCO will decide whether the evidence provided by the owner/master is acceptable on a case-by-case basis depending on the specific circumstances of the vessel and using his/her professional judgement.

#### **1.2 Scenario 2 : Vessels with a semi-completed IHM with an associated approved certificate (for EU flagged ships) or the Statement of Compliance (for non-EU flagged ships), that does not contain on-board sampling**

- In case the vessel with an IHM and associated certificate on-onboard may arrive at an EU port after

31 December 2020, but the IHM was prepared remotely without any onboard sampling due to restriction of access to the vessel during the COVID-19 pandemic, the IHM which is so called a "semi-completed IHM" should in principle not be acceptable as it is not complete.

- However, considering COVID-19 pandemic, the remote survey/sampling could be exceptionally acceptable under the condition that the flag State has agreed to such remote sampling.
- In addition to the evidence on Flag Administration's acceptance, there would also have to be documented plans and arrangements kept onboard the ship indicating when it will be feasible for qualified samplers to completed the IHM with respect to limitations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. [This means the semi-completed IHM must be re-approved by the Administration or Recognized Organization after onboard sampling inspection done by qualified expert company.]
- During the PSC inspection, the PSCO will decide whether the evidence provided by the owner/master is acceptable on a case-by-case basis depending on the specific circumstances of the vessel and using his/her professional judgement.

1.3 If PSCO accept the evidence related to two scenarios, the IHM should be completed and approved within 4 months after PSC inspection. If the plan provided as the evidence have to be amended due to continuing travel or access restriction, the owner/master should prepare the amended plan including the additional evidence from IHM inspector that it has not been feasible to meet initial plan. At the next PSC inspection, the PSCO will decide whether the amended plan with the evidence is acceptable on case-by-case basis depending on the specific circumstances of the vessel and using his/her professional judgement.

## **2. Measures to be taken by ship-owners/operators**

2.1 Even though European Commission suggested the harmonized approach on aforementioned two specific scenarios, this classification society cannot give a guarantee whether the PSCO accepts the evidence documented by the owner/master since the professional judgement is at discretion of each PSCO. Furthermore, you are kindly asked to note this notice and keep in mind the commission's intention that "an IHM without on-board sampling check should in principle not be acceptable and the semi completed IHM should be completed and re-approved within 4 month after the PSC inspection". Thus, it is strongly recommended that ship-owner/operator of the vessel prepare a duly approved IHM and its certificate (or Statement of Compliance) not later than the date of application (30 December 2020), and this classification society encourages to make effort to comply with EUSRR.

- The end -

Attachment : (1) EC Notice (2020/C 349/01)

(2) EMSA PSC Guidance on IHM

Distributions : KR surveyors, Ship owners, Other relevant parties

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