



PORTS and MARITIME AFFAIRS

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Directive No. FSI/01

FLAG STATE INSPECTION (FSI)

Issued under the enabling power of the Ministerial Resolution 20/2016

Issue Date: 29 December 2016

1 Introduction

- (1) As part of Ports and Maritime Affairs (PMA) ongoing management plan to improve the quality of Bahraini registered ships, ensure such ships are complying with International Conventions & National regulations, reduce adverse PSC reports and enhance reputation of the Kingdom of Bahrain in the maritime field, the PMA has established a Flag State Inspection group to carry out Flag State Inspections on the Bahraini registered ships of 150 GT and above.
- (2) As per Article 25.1 of Amiri Decree Law No. 14/1978 with respect to the Law for Registration of Ships and Determination of Safety Conditions thereof, the authorized Flag State Inspectors carry out Flag State Inspection through verification of statutory documentation and a general examination of the vessel's structure, machinery and equipment as well as a more thorough inspection and/or operational testing of firefighting equipment, lifesaving appliances and safety equipment.

2 Obligations of Ship-Owners/Company

Ship-owners and operating companies of Bahraini registered ships are to maintain and operate their ships according to certain requirements. The obligations of these companies and ship-owners are stipulated in the National Maritime Instruments listed in Annex 1 which are continuously updated in the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications official website (Ports and Maritime section).



3 Objectives of Flag State Inspections:

- (1) Support the quality shipping objectives of PMA.
- (2) Ensure that Bahraini-registered ships are well maintained and safely operated;
- (3) Enforce high standard of compliance with international and national rules and standards for Bahrain -registered ships.
- (4) Verify the actual condition of Bahrain -registered ships conform to the certificates they carry. The scope of the verification includes:
 - (a) Hull and machineries including equipment on deck if any.
 - (b) Safety management; and
 - (c) Security systems.
 - (d) Manning level;
- (5) Ensure that the ship's crew can effectively:
 - (a) Co-ordinate their activities in an emergency situation;
 - (b) Perform functions vital to safety; and
 - (c) Prevent or mitigate pollution.
- (6) Monitor the work performed by recognized organizations and nominated surveyors acting on behalf of the PMA.

4 Inspection Process:

- (1) Select a ship (at Random or Targeted "high risk ships") for inspection from the registry which is in Bahrain
- (2) Coordinate with the ship(s) owner, in respect to the duration and location of the ship in the Kingdom of Bahrain.
- (3) Arrange with the ship(s) owner to fix date and place inspection
- (4) Get a ship's file from Ship Registration & Seamen Directorate to review the history and statutory certificates/documents of the ship.
- (5) Extract up-to-date information regarding the ship from the RO web site as appropriate (Log on to the Recognized Organization website of the ship, if classed)
- (6) Conduct Flag State inspections by qualified PMA Inspectors.
- (7) Record the ship inspection outcome report in a FSI Report format.



- (8) The inspection report is to be handed over to the master upon completion of an inspection and a copy of the FSI report is to be submitted to the Ship Registration & Seamen Directorate and the ship owner.
- (9) The detention order or the suspension of the ship's operation shall not be lifted until the hazard is removed
- (10) The master is required to rectify any deficiencies in accordance with the conditions stated in the inspection report.
- (11) Follow up inspection for verification of the rectification of deficiencies found during the FSI inspection.
- (12) Write a Follow up Inspection Report.
- (13) Copy of inspection report and Follow up Inspection Report should be kept in the FSI File.

5 Detention of Ships:

As per Article 27 of Amiri Decree Law No.14/1978, the Undersecretary for Ports and Maritime Affairs or whoever acts on his behalf may detain a Bahraini registered ship if it fails to fulfill the conditions and requirements stipulated in the National Maritime Instruments.

6 Appeal:

The ship-owner or operating company may appeal against a detention within 30 days from the date of notification. The appeal should not cause the detention to be suspended. A ship-owner or operating company that wishes to appeal should state the reasons and provide supporting evidence in writing to the Undersecretary for Maritime Affairs.

7 Penalty

The Undersecretary may take the following action in respect to Ships failing to comply with the concerned national maritime instrument,:

- (1) Suspend the Document of Compliance (DOC) issued to a company under the International Safety Management Code (ISM) until such time the deficiencies are rectified, or / and
- (2) Withdraw the Bahraini Navigation License and detained the ship, or / and



- (3) Refer the violator to the competent court, which the master and the company may be fined in accordance with Amiri Decree Law No. 14/1978 or other National Instrument.

8 Revision history:

Revision No. 1 of the present Directive is the first revision.

Hassan Ali Al Majed

Undersecretary for Ports and Maritime Affairs

29th December 2016



ANNEX 1

NATIONAL MARITIME INSTRUMENTS CONCERNING FSI

1 Laws

- (1) Legislative Decree Law no.14/1978: Law for Registration of Ships and Determination of Safety Conditions thereof
- (2) Law no. 23/1982: Bahrain Maritime Law (Code) 1982
- (3) Legislative Decree Law no.13/1985: Acceding to several maritime Conventions
- (4) Legislative Decree Law no.20/1996: International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping for Seafarers, 1978
- (5) Law No. 32/2005: Acceding to Annex I, II and V of International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) 1973/1978
- (6) Law No. 4/2010: Acceding to International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC) 1990
- (7) Law No. 11/2014: Safety Regulations for Non-Conventional Size Ships in the GCC States.
- (8) Law No. 4/2016: Acceding to International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue (SAR) 1979

2 Regulations**(a) Ministerial Resolutions:**

1. Ministerial Resolution No. 6/2001: promulgation of the regulations on merchant shipping (manning, training, certification, and related seafarers' matters)
2. Ministerial Resolution 14/2016 with regards to approved classification societies
3. Ministerial Resolution 20/2016: Implementation of Conventions related to marine navigation

(b) PMA Resolutions:

1. PMA Resolution 6/2016 with regard to the implementation of the International Tonnage Convention 1969



2. PMA Resolution 7/2016 with regard to the implementation of MARPOL Convention 1973 and its Protocol and Annexes I, II and V
3. PMA Resolution 8/2016 with regard to the implementation of the SOLAS Convention 1974
4. PMA Resolution 9/2016 with regard to the implementation of Load Line Convention 1966 and Protocol 1988
5. PMA Resolution 1/2017 with regard to the Implementation of COLREG Convention

(c) General Directives:

1. Directive No. General/01: "To the Satisfaction of the Administration" Criteria

(d) STCW Directives:

1. Directive No. STCW/01: Safe Manning Document (SMD)
2. Directive No. STCW/02: Watchkeeping Arrangements & Principles
3. Directive No. STCW/03: Approval of Training Centers and Courses
4. Directive No. STCW/04: Issue of Bahraini Flag State Endorsement
5. Directive No. STCW/05: Issue of Bahraini National Certificates and Endorsements for Master and Officer Under STCW Chapter II and III
6. Directive No. STCW/06: Issue Of Bahraini National Certificates For GMDSS Radio Operator, Rating or Able Seafarer
7. Directive No. STCW/07: Tanker Training, Certification and Endorsement
8. Directive No. STCW/08: Standards of Medical Fitness for Seafarer's
9. Directive No. STCW/09: Certification for Ship Security Officer (SSO)
10. Directive No. STCW/10: Issue of Ships' Cook Certificate
11. Directive No. STCW/11: Cadet Training Programme
12. Directive No. STCW/12: Issue of Bahrain Seaman's Record Book
13. Directive No. STCW/13: Alternative Certificates Under STCW Chapter VII



14. Directive No. STCW/14: Issue of Non-STCW Certificates for Operation in Domestic Waters and for Operating Vessels With Propelling Power of Less Than 750 Kw
15. Directive No. STCW/15: Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS) Training
16. Directive No. STCW/16: Fitness for Duty and Minimum Period of Rest
17. Directive No. STCW/17: Issue of Manning Dispensation
18. Directive No. STCW/18: Issue and Registration of Certificates
19. Directive No. STCW/20: Conduct of Trials

(e) SOLAS Directives:

1. Directive SOLAS/01: Survey and Certification under SOLAS Chap I
2. Directive SOLAS/02: Type Approval Certificate for Bahraini Ships
3. Directive SOLAS/03: Means of Embarkation on and Disembarkation from Bahraini Ships
4. Directive SOLAS/04: Pilot Transfer Arrangements
5. Directive SOLAS/05: Display of Maneuvering Information on board ships
6. Directive SOLAS/06: In water Survey in lieu of Dry Docking
7. Directive SOLAS/07: Certificates and Documents required by SOLAS
8. Directive SOLAS/08: Carriage of Publications on Board Ships
9. Directive SOLAS/09: Oxygen Analysis & Gas Detection Equipment
10. Directive SOLAS/10: Life Saving Appliances and Equipment
11. Directive SOLAS/11: Goal Based Ship Construction Standards
12. Directive SOLAS/12: Maintenance and Inspection of Fire Protection Systems and Appliances
13. Directive SOLAS/13: Emergency Escape Breathing Devices (EEBDS)
14. Directive SOLAS/14: Intact and Damage Stability and Strength of Vessels



15. Directive SOLAS/15: GMDSS Requirements for Radio Installations and Operations
16. Directive SOLAS/16: Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS) Requirements and Back-Up Arrangements

(f) MRPOL Directives:

1. Directive MARPOL/01: Implementation of MARPOL Annex V
2. Directive MARPOL/02: OIL RECORD BOOKS
3. Directive No. MARPOL/03: Control of Discharges of Residues of Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk From Ships

(g) Other Directives:

1. Directive No. ISM/01: Implementation of the International Safety Management (ISM Code)
2. Directive CIC/01: Investigation of Marine Casualties and incidents
3. Directive No. PSC/01: Bahrain Port State Control
4. Directive No. PSC/02: Follow-Up Inspection Fee for a National and Foreign Vessel in Bahraini Waters
5. Directive No. FSI/01: Flag State Inspection (FSI)

(h) Marine Notice:

1. Marine Notice 01-2008: LRIT
2. Marine Notice 03-2009: AIS - Bahraini Flag
3. Marine Notice 01-2014: Coming into force Safety Regulations for Non-conventional Ships