



# Press Release

## THE CARIBBEAN MOU PROPOSES AMENDMENTS TO APPLICABILITY OF THE CCSS CODE

The Caribbean Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control<sup>1</sup> (CMOU) held its 28<sup>th</sup> annual Committee meeting in Antigua and Barbuda from the 29<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2023, following the IMO's Regional Meeting of Directors and Heads of Maritime Administrations (DIHMAR) Meeting.

The meeting was attended by eighteen of the twenty member States, the Associate Member State of the British Virgin Islands and the Observer States of Montserrat. In addition, the Regional Maritime Advisor of the IMO and representatives from the United States Coast Guard and the PMOU were in attendance. The IOMOU, the Tokyo MOU and the Vina del Mar Agreement were able to participate virtually. During the meeting, the Med MOU and Black Sea MOU were accepted as Observers to the CMOU.

Due to the ongoing concern of non-CMOU Member States issuing Caribbean Cargo Ship Certificates under the Caribbean Cargo Ship Safety Code, the CPSCC 28 proposed an amendment to the CCSS Code preamble to address this issue. The Committee, cognizant of the fact that the Code is used by the Vina del Mar Agreement (AVM), has also proposed an amendment to be incorporated to the Code for those State within the AVM region. This proposal has been submitted to the IMO's Working Group charged with the responsibility for reviewing the Code and it is expected to be approved at the CPSCC 29 Meeting to be held in June of 2024.

The Technical Standing Working Group (TSWG) of the CMOU has been tasked to address the inclusion of new IMO requirements and guidelines in the PSC Manual, guidelines for electronic certificates, issues involving inspections of dangerous goods, CMOU Continued Professional Development policy among others. In addition, the Finance and Administration Standing Working Group (FASWG) was requested to review amendments to the Membership categories, develop a policy regarding interagency cooperation for PSC activities and other activities.

Mr. Michel Amafo, the Chairman of the CMOU, stated that it was heartening to see so many Member States and Regional MOUs participating in the meeting and that the ability to have the meeting

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<sup>1</sup> Port State Control is a check on visiting foreign ships to see that they comply with international rules on safety, pollution prevention and seafarers living and working conditions. It is a means of enforcing compliance where the owner and flag State have failed in their responsibility to implement or ensure compliance. The Caribbean MOU was signed in 1996 in Barbados and now has a complement of 20 Member States (Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, France, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, the Netherlands, St. Christopher and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Sint Maarten, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago) and two Associate Member States (British Virgin Islands and Anguilla).

following the DHIMAR allowed for mor Member States to participate at reduced cost as well as reducing the carbon footprint due to less travelling.

The Committee adopted the 2022 Annual Report including the overview of the activities of the CMOU for the period and the statistics including inspections totaling 461, deficiencies observed at 652 and 10 detentions. The complete report is available on the CMOU's website.<sup>2</sup>

The CPSCC 29 meeting is scheduled to be held in June of 2024 in the Bahamas.

Contact: Mrs. Jodi Barrow  
Secretary General  
Caribbean MOU  
12 Ocean Boulevard  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, the Office Centre Building  
Kingston  
Tel: 876-967-1077

For more information on the Caribbean MoU on Port State Control please consult our Website on the following address: [www.caribbeanmou.org](http://www.caribbeanmou.org)

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