



# IMMARBE INTERNATIONAL MERCHANT MARINE REGISTRY OF BELIZE

Merchant Marine Notice - MMN-19-001

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To: DEPUTY REGISTRARS, SHIP OWNERS/ISM OPERATORS/RECOGNIZED  
ORGANIZATIONS/SHIPPING AGENTS/GENERAL SAFETY INSPECTORS

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Reference: Global 0.50% m/m Sulphur Limit under MARPOL Annex VI

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Issuance Date: 11/01/2019

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## REFERENCE

The IMO in its 70th Session adopted on 28 October 2016 the Resolution MEPC 278(70) regarding the Amendments to the Annex of the Protocol of 1997 to amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (Amendments to MARPOL Annex VI).

The IMO in its 73rd Session approved on 22 to 26 October 2018 the MEPC.1/Circ.878 regarding the Guidance on the development of a ship implementation plan for the consistent implementation of the 0.50% Sulphur limit under MARPOL Annex VI.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this notice is to inform Ship Owners, ISM Operators and Recognized Organizations about the effective date of implementation for ships to comply with global 0.50% m/m Sulphur Limit under MARPOL Annex VI from 1 January 2020

## CONTENT

The MEPC 70 agreed to 1 January 2020 as the effective date of implementation for ships to comply with global 0.50% m/m Sulphur content of fuel oil requirement and adopted Resolution MEPC.280(70) on the Effective date of implementation of the fuel oil standard in regulation 14.1.3 of MARPOL Annex VI.

The MEPC 73 agreed that Administrations should encourage ships flying their flag to develop implementation plans, outlining how the ship may prepare in order to comply with the required Sulphur content limit of 0.50% by 1 January 2020. The plan could be complemented with a record of actions taken by the ship in order to be compliant by the applicable date.

## Action Required from Owners/ISM Operators/Flag Inspectors/Recognized Organizations.

1. All Vessels are **strongly recommended** to follow the Guidance on the Development of a Ship Implementation Plan for the Consistent Implementation of the 0.50% Sulphur Limit under MARPOL Annex VI in accordance with the MEPC.1/Circ.878 of 9 November 2018.

This plan will not be considered as a mandatory requirement; nevertheless, a proper development will assist on a smooth transition when this requirement enters into effect.

2. Annual Flag Inspections to be carried by General Safety Inspectors during 2019 will verify if the vessel has implemented this non-mandatory implementation plan or proper actions have been taken when the Global 0.50% m/m Sulphur Limit enters into effect.

In case, the vessel is found without implementation plan, incomplete implementation plan or without proper actions taken, the same shall be notified to our Administration to IMMARBE Technical Department (Eng. Eduardo Simon ([technicalofficer@immarbe.com](mailto:technicalofficer@immarbe.com)), Mr. Anique Sabal ([technicalofficer2@immarbe.com](mailto:technicalofficer2@immarbe.com)) and Mrs. Sharon Escalante ([techsupport@immarbe.com](mailto:techsupport@immarbe.com)) for proper record and further actions, but not as a means of deficiency.

3. Recognized Organizations that will carry out any statutory surveys during 2019 will verify if the vessel has implemented this non-mandatory implementation plan or proper actions have been taken when the Global 0.50% m/m Sulphur Limit enters into effect.

In case, the vessel is found without implementation plan, incomplete implementation plan or without proper actions taken, the same shall be notified to our Administration to IMMARBE Technical Department (Eng. Eduardo Simon ([technicalofficer@immarbe.com](mailto:technicalofficer@immarbe.com)), Mr. Anique Sabal ([technicalofficer2@immarbe.com](mailto:technicalofficer2@immarbe.com)) and Mrs. Sharon Escalante ([techsupport@immarbe.com](mailto:techsupport@immarbe.com)) for proper record and further actions, but not as a means of deficiency.

The above actions will remain in force until December 31st, 2019.

Look forward for your cooperation and assistance.

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The Merchant Marine Notice was issued in Belize city, Belize 11/01/2019



Eng. Eduardo Simon  
Technical Manager  
IMMARBE



AnnetteGarel(Mrs.)  
Senior Deputy Registrar  
IMMARBE