



PSCircular 103

4 JULY 2023

Guidance on how to deal with inspections by the Russian Maritime Authority (rev.2)

Introduction

- 1 In light of the ongoing situation in Ukraine it was decided by the European Commission that, as a consequence of European Union measures against the Russian Federation, the access to users from the Russian Federation to, inter alia, the inspection database THETIS was terminated from the 5 March 2022.
- 2 On 13 May 2022, the Russian Maritime Authority membership of the Paris MoU was suspended with immediate effect and until further notice.

Guidance for member Authorities/PSCOs

- 3 The MoU Advisory Board (MAB) has considered how to deal with the inspections of ships by the Russian Maritime Authority in the period from 5 March 2022 to 13 May 2022 and from 13 May 2022 onwards.
- 4 MAB concluded that the Russian Maritime Authority has not been able to upload inspection reports in THETIS since 5 March 2022 and MAB has decided that the inspections by the Russian Maritime Authority which have not been submitted to THETIS will not be taken into account by the Paris MoU Members.
- 5 MAB has also considered how to deal with the procedure to lift the ban, in case the refusal of access measure has been issued by the Russian Federation.
- 6 MAB, taking into account the new procedure for lifting a ban as agreed in principle during PSCC56, concluded that the banning measure can be lifted in case the following conditions are met:
 - .1 A formal request by the Company is addressed to the Paris MoU Secretariat;
 - .2 The request must be accompanied by:
 - a) a document from the flag Administration, issued following an on-board survey by a surveyor duly authorised by the flag State, showing that the ship fully conforms to the applicable Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control relevant instruments. This statement should be accompanied by the statutory certificates for those conventions to which the flag State is a party and attestations covering any remaining relevant instruments. The flag Administration shall provide evidence that a survey on board has taken place. The document may

be in the form of an official statement which has to be issued by the flag Administration and not a recognized organization;

- b) a document from the classification society(ies) showing that the ship conforms to the class standards stipulated by that society(ies), if required. The classification society(ies) must also provide evidence that an on-board visit has taken place prior to the issuance of the document.

.3 When the above requirements have been complied with, the Secretariat:

- a) informs the Information System Manager (THETIS@emsa.europa.eu) that the ban can be lifted in THETIS;
- b) informs the Company that the refusal of access has been lifted for the Paris MoU region, but that this decision obviously does not extend to the ports of the banning State (the Russian Federation), and that the ship will be inspected at the first call within the Paris MoU region;
- c) inserts an "overriding factor" message in THETIS as a "Member State report" mentioning that the ship's refusal of access measure has been lifted in accordance with PSCircular 103.

.4 The ship will receive an expanded inspection in the first port visited in the region.
