



Maritime Circular No.41

To:

Ship – Owners / Managers / Operators, Registration Officers (RegOffs), Class Societies, Recognised Organisations (RO), Flag Safety Inspectors (FSI), SLMARAD Departments (All)

Subject:

Compliance to requirements of MARPOL ANNEX VI regarding low sulphur fuel oil

Date:

09th April 2020

References:

Annex VI, Resolution MEPC.320(74), Resolution MEPC.321(74), ISO 8217:2017

Purpose

To inform all interested parties for the ban on carriage of non-compliant fuel oil.

Application

1. This Maritime Circular applies to all Sierra Leonean vessels.
2. As of 01/01/2020, all vessels flying Sierra Leone Flag should comply with the requirements of MARPOL Annex VI, that prohibits the carriage of non-compliant fuel oil for combustion purposes for propulsion or operation onboard. The sulphur content of fuel oil used or carried for use on board Sierra Leonean vessels shall not exceed 0.50% m/m (mass by mass).
3. Sulphur content of fuel oil used on board vessels which operate within an emission control area (ref.: MARPOL Annex VI, Regulation 14), shall not exceed 0.10% m/m.
4. The Administration may allow any fitting, material, apparatus, alternative fuel oils or other compliance methods as an alternative of the requirements of compliant fuel oil. These alternative methods shall be at least as effective in terms of emission reductions as that required by the present Maritime Circular. The Administration will examine alternative methods on a case by case basis.
5. In the event that a vessel has made all reasonable efforts and was unable to obtain compliant fuel oil, the Classification Society and/or Recognized Organization shall immediately notify the Administration and the Master/Company shall inform the competent authority of the port of destination accordingly. The Classification Society and/or Recognized Organization are required to submit a FONAR completed and signed by the Master/Company immediately to the Administration (ref.: MEPC.320(74), Appendix 1) and also present a record of actions taken to attempt to bunker correct fuel oil and provide evidence of an attempt to purchase compliant fuel oil in accordance with its voyage plan and, if it was not made available where planned, that attempts were made to locate alternative sources for such fuel oil and that despite best efforts to obtain compliant fuel oil, no such fuel oil was made available for purchase.



6. The Administration will notify IMO and upload the Fuel Oil Non-Availability Report to MARPOL Annex VI GISIS platform.
7. The Classification Society and/or Recognized Organization shall submit after consultation with Master / Company to the Administration copies of Bunker Delivery Notes (BDN).
8. A copy of FONAR and BDN shall be retained on board for a period of 3 years after the fuel oil has been delivered onboard.
9. It should be noted that FONAR report is not an exemption.
10. Non-compliance with the above requirements may result to the imposition of a penalty and/or any other measures as deemed necessary by the administration.

For additional information please contact SLMARAD at info@slmarad.com

Revision Status

Date	Revision	Comments - Changes
09/04/2020	0	Initial - Adopted