

**Commonwealth of Dominica****Office of the Maritime Administrator**

**TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS, AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS**

**SUBJECT: Carriage of Grain**

**REFERENCE:**

- (a) **International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea 1974 (SOLAS '74) As Amended**
- (b) **MSC/ Circ. 363 of 25 April 1983**
- (c) **MSC/ Circ. 488 of 6 June 1988**

**PURPOSE:** This Circular is to advise Owners and Masters of their responsibility to ensure that their ships are properly approved for grain loading and that neither the Administration nor its authorized Agents will be responsible for the consequence of improper or inadequate documentation which fails to meet the requirements of the Dominican regulations or the legislation of any port State.

**APPLICABILITY:** The provisions of Chapter VI of SOLAS applies in full to all approvals of grain loading arrangements for the Dominican vessels of greater than 20 gross tons including non-self propelled barges constructed or utilized for the carriage of grain.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- 1.0** Grain loading arrangements for all Dominica ships will be approved in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VI of reference (a). However, approvals granted to vessels built prior to May 1980 are to be in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 12 of Chapter VI, SOLAS 1960, IMO Resolution A.262, or IMO Resolution A. 184 will remain valid.
- 2.0** The contents of MSC/Circ. 363 are to be taken into consideration when applying Part C of Chapter VI "Strength of Grain Division."

- 3.0** Loading plans, calculations and other data related to grain loading arrangements offered for approval are required to be submitted directly to a recognized organization of the International Association of Classification Societies or The National Cargo Bureau. Only those organizations have been duly authorized as Agents for approving the grain loading arrangements for Dominica registered ships. These organizations have been further authorized to issue official grain loading certificates on behalf of the Administration in a form prescribed by the Office of the Deputy Maritime Administrator.

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