

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 30 September 2014 09:14
To: [Redacted] (Sensitive)
Subject: OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE:

** REGISTERED **

Hi [Redacted],

Thanks for the call. I would suggest an approach along the following lines:

Under a number of International Conventions (e.g. SOLAS, MARPOL, STCW, Tonnage, Loadline, Bunker Liability, Maritime Claims, Harmful Ant-fouling Sysyem etc.) a number of statutory certificates are required to be issued to merchant ships by their Flag State or a Recognised Organisation acting on behalf of their Flag State. This is to demonstrate compliance by the operator, and is issued dependent mainly on the ship's type and Gross Tonnage.

The UK Administration has been approached by a number of organisations claiming to represent the Togolise Republic's interests in respect of the Togo-Flagged ship HORTEN (IMO 8746806), but we have been unable to verify through normal channels (GISIS) the authorisation formally given to each of these organisations. We would be most grateful if the Togolise Republic's Administration could confirm please, the organisations that have been recognised by it, that can issue statutory certification for their flag ships on international voyages and the extent of that authorisation.

Hope the above text is useful. Many thanks.

BR

[Redacted]

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 11 July 2014 11:08
To: [Redacted]
Subject: OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE: RE: MV Horten - quick question OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

** REGISTERED **

Hi [Redacted],

OK thanks.

MCA has not been approached further in respect of the ship's detention. The ship has no valid surveys or certificates, and no certificated manning from our perspective so she cannot sail yet.

Not sure where the matters of consideration are in respect of UNCLOS A.101, or where [Redacted] or BIS are. We've not been informed on those matters ourselves.

HORTEN has not sailed yet and is still in Ramsgate. Apparently questions are being asked by the company to the port today so there may be some increased activity. As soon as I hear anything I'll let you know.

Regards
[Redacted]

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 10 July 2014 14:59
To: [Redacted]
Subject: MV Horten - quick question OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE
Importance: High

The FCO has classified this message as OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE. Please ensure you handle it appropriately.

Hi, [Redacted]

Hope all is well with you.

I just wanted to get the latest on the MV Horten - I believe that BIS issued the export licence last week, but are there any other outstanding issues that are keeping it in port (perhaps it has already sailed). Our colleagues on the Nigerian Desk are asking for an update.

Many thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] I Arms Export Policy Team I Foreign and Commonwealth Office

* email: [Redacted] :url: www.fco.gov.uk <<http://www.fco.gov.uk/>>

P Help save paper - do you need to print this email?

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 11 July 2014 11:16
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Nigeria – [Redacted] - Norwegian naval vessel OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

**** REGISTERED ****

Morning, [Redacted]

Hope all is well.

Please see the attached message I've received from MCA. Hope it is of some help.

All the best for now

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 10 July 2014 14:45
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Nigeria – [Redacted] - Norwegian naval vessel OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Hi, [Redacted]

Let me speak to my contact at the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and get back to you.

Cheers
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 10 July 2014 14:43
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Nigeria – [Redacted] - Norwegian naval vessel OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[Redacted]

You mentioned today that although it was unlikely that the ELA would be revoked at this stage, there are still some processes that need to be completed before this vessel would be cleared for onward travel to Nigeria. Can you confirm what processes still have to be done?

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 07 July 2014 19:54

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Nigeria – [Redacted] - Norwegian naval vessel OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[Redacted]

- [Redacted]

ELAs are judged on various criteria. The decision to approve the above application was based on no concerns about criterion 2 (used for internal repression or the abuse of human rights). [Redacted] assessed under Criterion 3 (provoke or prolong armed conflicts or aggravate existing tensions in the destination country) before any decision was made. I am not saying that the decision to approve was wrong, I just think that more information and comments should have been sought before approving.

[Redacted] | Room EG013 | Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London SW1A 2AH | [Redacted] : url: www.fco.gov.uk

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 07 July 2014 14:53
To: [Redacted]; [Redacted]
Subject: Nigeria – [Redacted] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[Redacted]

Good to meet you earlier.

First, please find attached, as requested, my recommendation for the ex-Norwegian Navy vessel which is currently at Ramsgate. This was cleared by both my line manager, [Redacted], and by our Deputy Head of Department, [Redacted]. If you have any concerns, please let me know.

I will work on the two pro-formas, for submission to the Minister, on the radios and the cannons. [Redacted] – grateful if you can provide views on both from Desk and Post. I will go back to HRDD and ask them to share their views based on the *current* situation in country.

[Redacted]

I look forward to working with you in the future.

All the best

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Arms Export Policy Team | Foreign and Commonwealth Office

[Redacted]

 [url: www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk)

🖨️ Help save paper - do you need to print this email?

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 14 July 2014 13:31

To: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: SIE2014/005119 - Norwegian vessel for Nigeria OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE
OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

**** REGISTERED ****

[Redacted]

See the attached.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 14 July 2014 12:38

To: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: SIE2014/005119 - Norwegian vessel for Nigeria OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE
OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

The FCO has classified this message as OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE. Please ensure you handle it appropriately.

Hi, [Redacted]

Hope all is well.

[Redacted] and I are having a meeting with Desk about this tomorrow (they are quite nervous about it, but haven't, as yet, provided us with strong Criteria-based reasons for over-turning it). You mentioned that they had been copied in on earlier correspondence – could I trouble you and ask you exactly when that was?

Sorry for the hassle.

All the best

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 08 July 2014 12:14

To: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: SIE2014/005119 - Norwegian vessel for Nigeria OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[Redacted]

The licence was issued on 1 July. We can't "pause it" so unless Desk quickly come up with a strong Criteria based reason why it should be revoked. Which as you say is unlikely.

Incidentally Desk were copied in on earlier correspondence on this subject when this first came to light.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 08 July 2014 12:04

To: [Redacted]

Subject: SIE2014/005119 - Norwegian vessel for Nigeria OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Importance: High

The FCO has classified this message as OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE. Please ensure you handle it appropriately.

Hi, [Redacted]

Hope all's well.

We're having a few issues with Spire at the moment, so I can't see what stage the Norwegian vessels for Nigeria is at. I'd made my recommendation without consulting Post/Desk – they've now seen it and have asked if we can pause the application it for now. Is that possible? From the correspondence I've seen, it does not look like they wouldn't recommend refusal, they just want to delve into it a little more.

Apologies for not consulting them first – part of the learning curve.

Cheers

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Arms Export Policy Team | Foreign and Commonwealth Office

[Redacted]

 [url: www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk)

 Help save paper - do you need to print this email?

.....

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 27 August 2014 15:51

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: -SENSITIVE: Re: M V Horten OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

** REGISTERED **

[Redacted]

The agreed defensive lines on this should be fine for any enquiry such as this. However I do wonder if we should offer any comment on the application being granted, it may lead to more questions from the local councillor.

[Redacted] | Room EG013 | Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street
| London SW1A 2AH | email: [Redacted] | : url: www.fco.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 27 August 2014 12:17
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: -SENSITIVE: Re: M V Horten OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[Redacted]

Please see the below e-mail chain and attachment from MCA, regarding the vessel which was destined for Global West Vessel Specialists in Nigeria.

A local councillor has asked for the reasons behind the continued detention of the vessel at Ramsgate. MCA have been upfront and honest with him about why it's still in port, but he has seen a 2011 statement from the Norwegian government stating that they had refused a licence for the export of the boat to Somalia and wonders whether it is being held in the UK for similar (licensing) reasons. MCA may pass the councillor to the FCO/BIS for comment, so I've asked BIS if we can agree the line that applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis and that, owing to the end user being significantly different to that highlighted in the Norwegian refusal of 2011, we were in a position to grant the licence (our previously agreed defensive lines have also been passed to BIS). I'll let you know if they are content with that approach, but if you have any comments, let me know.

MCA have also informed me that they will keep me up to date with any further developments.

Best wishes for now
[Redacted]

[Redacted] I Arms Export Policy Team | Foreign and Commonwealth Office | email:
[Redacted] url: www.fco.gov.uk | P Help save paper - do you need to print this email?

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 27 August 2014 09:28
To: [Redacted]
Subject: OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE: Re: M V Horten

Good Morning Gents,

PSA a recent approach to MCA from [Redacted], presumably from Thanet Council, but informally from a Yahoo address. We have been treating it as a media enquiry given the nature of the approach. [Redacted]

We will need to re-direct his enquiry regarding matters of export, so this email is to give you and your media office the heads up.

MV Horten currently remains detained, no further action on the part of the owner/operators to date.

Kind Regards

[Redacted]
Marine Surveyor
Maritime & Coastguard Agency

Tel. [Redacted]
Mob. [Redacted]

>>> [Redacted] 26/08/2014 17:27 >>>

Dear [Redacted] - please see attached follow-up questions from [Redacted]. I'm guessing these fall outside our ambit, but advice on where we should send him would be welcomed. If it is FCO/DfT we'd need to give them a heads-up I would imagine. I don't think he'd want to direct his enquires to them through their respective press offices, however, so your counterparts in this area would probably be his best points of contact. We've already covered the issue of why the good ship Horten did not originally feature on our detentions list.

Grateful for your thoughts.

regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
Maritime & Coastguard Agency
[Redacted]

P Subject to the need to keep up to date file records, please consider your environmental responsibility before printing this email

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 27 August 2014 15:52
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: -SENSITIVE: Re: M V Horten OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

** REGISTERED **

Thanks, [Redacted]

Just to keep you updated, BIS have said that because this is a query about export controls, they will take the lead on this. They've got our other defensive lines (which have been cleared by [Redacted] in Press Office) and I've asked them to consult with their own press team on whether it's

appropriate to comment on the finer details of the case. I'm sure they'll let us know if they receive any queries.

Cheers for now
[Redacted]

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 27 August 2014 15:51
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: -SENSITIVE: Re: M V Horten OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[Redacted]

The agreed defensive lines on this should be fine for any enquiry such as this. However I do wonder if we should offer any comment on the application being granted, it may lead to more questions from the local councillor.

[Redacted] | Room EG013 | Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street
| London SW1A 2AH | email: [Redacted] | : url: www.fco.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 27 August 2014 12:17
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: -SENSITIVE: Re: M V Horten OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[Redacted]

Please see the below e-mail chain and attachment from MCA, regarding the vessel which was destined for Global West Vessel Specialists in Nigeria.

A local councillor has asked for the reasons behind the continued detention of the vessel at Ramsgate. MCA have been upfront and honest with him about why it's still in port, but he has seen a 2011 statement from the Norwegian government stating that they had refused a licence for the export of the boat to Somalia and wonders whether it is being held in the UK for similar (licensing) reasons. MCA may pass the councillor to the FCO/BIS for comment, so I've asked BIS if we can agree the line that applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis and that, owing to the end user being significantly different to that highlighted in the Norwegian refusal of 2011, we were in a position to grant the licence (our previously agreed defensive lines have also been passed to BIS). I'll let you know if they are content with that approach, but if you have any comments, let me know.

MCA have also informed me that they will keep me up to date with any further developments.

Best wishes for now
[Redacted]

[Redacted] I Arms Export Policy Team I Foreign and Commonwealth Office F email:
[Redacted] url: www.fco.gov.uk P Help save paper - do you need to print this
email?

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 27 August 2014 09:28
To: [Redacted]
Subject: OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE: Re: M V Horten

Good Morning Gents,

PSA a recent approach to MCA from [Redacted], presumably from Thanet Council,
but informally from a Yahoo address. We have been treating it as a media
enquiry given the nature of the approach. Some interesting remarks about the
nature of companies involved.

We will need to re-direct his enquiry regarding matters of export, so this
email is to give you and your media office the heads up.

MV Horten currently remains detained, no further action on the part of the
owner/operators to date.

Kind Regards

[Redacted]
Marine Surveyor
Maritime & Coastguard Agency

Tel. [Redacted]
Mob. [Redacted]

>>> [Redacted] 26/08/2014 17:27 >>>

Dear [Redacted] - please see attached follow-up questions from [Redacted].
I'm guessing these fall outside our ambit, but advice on where we should send
him would be welcomed. If it is FCO/DfT we'd need to give them a heads-up I
would imagine. I don't think he'd want to direct his enquires to them through
their respective press offices, however, so your counterparts in this area
would probably be his best points of contact. We've already covered the issue
of why the good ship Horten did not originally feature on our detentions list.

Grateful for your thoughts.

regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
Maritime & Coastguard Agency
[Redacted]

P Subject to the need to keep up to date file records, please consider your environmental responsibility before printing this email

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 10 September 2014 14:02

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: -SENSITIVE: MV HORTEN Detention Release Request
OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

** REGISTERED **

Hi, [Redacted]

Hope all is well. Thanks for the updates, and apologies for the slightly delayed response.

[Redacted] and [Redacted] could confirm, but BIS issued the export licence on 1 July. When assessed against the relevant criteria, there were no valid grounds for refusal. [Redacted], and that your checks are completed to your satisfaction, I guess the boat can then get on its way. There is potential for further press interest once that happens, so grateful if you could keep us updated on when we might expect the vessel to leave port.

All the best
[Redacted]

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 08 September 2014 16:22

To: [Redacted]

Subject: OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE: MV HORTEN Detention Release Request

Good Afternoon All,

Please be advised that the Master of MV HORTEN has requested the ship's release from detention today.

From our side there will now follow a short period where the Flag State's own verification report is passed to us, and fees are deposited before our inspectors re-visit. I will keep everyone apprised of timetable, and whether any other matters arise.

Please can each department formally confirm whether any other ongoing interest over matters of ship control are applicable to them, and (where relevant) that an Export Licence has been granted for this ship to sail to Nigeria.

Many Thanks

Kind Regards

[Redacted]
Maritime & Coastguard Agency

Tel. [Redacted]
Mob. [Redacted]

Subject to the need to keep up to date file records, please consider your environmental responsibility before printing this mail

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 04 July 2014 11:50
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: -SENSITIVE: HMONS Horten [Redacted]

** REGISTERED **

Cheers [Redacted]. I haven't heard anything further at the moment, so fingers crossed...

[Redacted] | Press Officer - North Africa, MEPP, Counter Proliferation and Arms Exports | Media Office | Room W.G.6 | Foreign and Commonwealth Office | London SW1A 2AH |
[Redacted] | www.gov.uk If an email reply is overdue please telephone the above number.
Help save paper - do you need to print this email?

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 04 July 2014 10:58
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: -SENSITIVE: HMONS Horten [Redacted]

Morning, [Redacted]

Hope all is well.

Just thought I'd pass the below to you. Sadly I can't get a decent translation through [Redacted]. I haven't had a great deal of correspondence on this since last week, so I assume that you managed to pass this over to one of the other departments.

Cheers for now
[Redacted]

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 03 July 2014 15:45

To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE: HMoNS Horten [Redacted]

Good Afternoon [Redacted],

Not sure if your department, [Redacted] & BIS are aware of the various press articles from the Norwegian Dagbladet newspaper yesterday, see:

<http://www.dagbladet.no/2014/07/02/nyheter/forsvaret/innenriks/utenriks/forsvarspolitikk/34131395/> plus the links to additional articles at the bottom, of the page.

They're all in Norwegian unfortunately, but the concerns being expressed are similar to that being discussed by everyone here so far. Interestingly the Norwegian Labour leader appears to have publically blamed the UK authorities for the matter of their patrol boats which appear to be in Nigeria already. There are substantial unanswered questions from the press side.

Seems to be front page news there, and probably a matter of time before the story also picked up by the UK press. MCA was apparently approached by the above paper for comment earlier. I've briefed our press communications department further accordingly, and other government departments may wish to do the same.

Hope this is useful.

Regards
[Redacted]

Subject to the need to keep up to date file records, please consider your environmental responsibility before printing this mail

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 20 June 2014 16:19
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

**** REGISTERED ****

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 20 June 2014 15:00
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Nigeria: Ex-Norwegian [Redacted] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE
[OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

[Redacted]

Export of Norwegian [Redacted] to Nigeria – Lines to take

[Redacted]

I would welcome any further comments on the above, particularly from [Redacted].

Regards,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 20 June 2014 14:43
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE
OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 20 June 2014 13:59
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE
OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

The FCO has classified this message as OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE. Please ensure you handle it appropriately.

[Redacted]

Please see the attached draft for your consideration.

[Redacted]

[Redacted] – grateful for your input, on the third question in particular.

Many thanks

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 20 June 2014 09:51

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE
OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[Redacted],

I have asked [Redacted] here to pull something together and clear with you and [Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 20 June 2014 09:28

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[Redacted]

We'd appreciate if you could take on the press lines on this occasion as we have a number of other urgent priorities to address, including Somalia, Russia and Iraq. We also have a major push on reducing the licensing backlog caused by weeks of IT disruption. Ministers and the Perm Sec are watching this closely so we need to keep focused on this. Thanks.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 19 June 2014 17:26

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

The FCO has classified this message as OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE. Please ensure you handle it appropriately.

[Redacted], thanks. I suggest producing some press lines on the story, as apparently it is big news in Norway. Would you and Richard with your respective press offices be able to pull something together? [Redacted]

[Redacted] | Arms Export Policy Department | Directorate for Defence and International Security | Room OAB 3/129 | Foreign and Commonwealth Office | Old Admiralty Building | London SW1A 2AH | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 19 June 2014 15:32

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

[Redacted],

[Redacted]

Regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 19 June 2014 14:21

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

[Redacted]

By way of background:

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 17 June 2014 16:57

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

The FCO has classified this message as OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE. Please ensure you handle it appropriately.

Just to confirm we have bought some time on this. The enquiry came through our Embassy in Oslo. Our Press Team will go back to Oslo and say we are looking into it and to say we will get back to Dagbladet tomorrow. [Redacted]

[Redacted] | Arms Export Policy Department | Directorate for Defence and International Security | Room OAB 3/129 | Foreign and Commonwealth Office | Old Admiralty Building | London SW1A 2AH [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 17 June 2014 16:49
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Arms Export Policy Department | Directorate for Defence and International Security | Room OAB 3/129 | Foreign and Commonwealth Office | Old Admiralty Building | London SW1A 2AH [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 17 June 2014 16:33
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

[Redacted]

I'm reluctant to contact my press office. I suggest that the FCO press office buys some time.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 17 June 2014 16:18
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

The FCO has classified this message as OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE. Please ensure you handle it appropriately.

Now attached.[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Arms Export Policy Department | Directorate for Defence and International Security | Room OAB 3/129| Foreign and Commonwealth Office | Old Admiralty Building | London SW1A 2AH [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 17 June 2014 16:17
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted] (Restricted)
Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Arms Export Policy Department | Directorate for Defence and International Security | Room OAB 3/129| Foreign and Commonwealth Office | Old Admiralty Building | London SW1A 2AH | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 17 June 2014 12:19

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: FW: Nigeria: [Redacted] [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

[Redacted],

[Redacted]

Best regards,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 17 June 2014 12:08

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted]

[Redacted] and others

Please see the attached.

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 17 June 2014 11:26

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Nigeria: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

*

Visit <http://www.gov.uk/fco> for British foreign policy news and travel advice and <http://blogs.fco.gov.uk> to read our blogs.

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 24 June 2014 17:34

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE
[OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

**** REGISTERED ****

Thanks [Redacted]. All good points.

[Redacted]

Regards,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 24 June 2014 09:12

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE
[OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

All,

Having been away for a few days I am just now catching up with this (voluminous!) correspondence. My contribution to the debate is as follows:

1. [Redacted] is correct, we don't generally recognise the concept of "demilitarisation" – if an item was originally "specially designed" for military use it will always be considered as military. In particular, entry ML9a1 of the UK Military List (the control that applies specifically to [Redacted]) states as follows (I have highlighted the most relevant text):

"Vessels" (surface or underwater) specially designed or modified for military use,
regardless of current state of repair or operating condition, and whether or not they
contain weapon delivery systems or armour, and components therefor specially
designed or modified for military use

I should note that this text is the text adopted by the Wassenaar Arrangement, of which Norway is a Participating State, so if there is any difference of application of the controls we have a hook on which to hang any questions.

2. At this stage we should restrict our public comments to:
 - We are aware of the stories in the Norwegian media regarding [Redacted]. We are cooperating with the Norwegian authorities to determine the actual facts of the case.
 - [Redacted] is currently in the UK and is the subject of an export licence application. That application will be assessed in the usual way against the Consolidated EU and National Export Licensing Criteria taking into Account all the relevant facts and circumstances of the case.
[Redacted]
 - [Redacted]

If they can't answer those questions then there isn't really a lot else we can say.

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Export Control Organisation | Department for Business, Innovation and Skills | 1
Victoria Street | London | SW1H 0ET | [Redacted] |
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/export-control-organisation>

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 20 June 2014 17:18

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE
[OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

[Redacted]

Regards,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 20 June 2014 16:37

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE [OFFICIAL-
SENSITIVE] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

[Redacted]

Fair enough, I hadn't seen that document. We do believe though the MV Horten to be "a military specification warship in commercial hands which is not decommissioned, is in a relatively good condition and working order, and is in a reasonably high state of readiness" (MCA's assessment) ie not demilitarised. Not sure where that leaves us, but if you're restricting your line to [Redacted]. I'm not trying to be awkward here I'm just worried that we may be getting ourselves in to a bit of a hole in trying to be as transparent as possible.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 20 June 2014 16:11

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

The FCO has classified this message as OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE. Please ensure you handle it appropriately.

[Redacted]

Thanks for your comments. For now, we'll issue a standard response ("We are aware of this issue. We are in touch with the Norwegian authorities"), but will review early next week, upon receipt of a response from MCA.

[Redacted] – Regarding the demilitarisation of [Redacted], there is a letter attached to the [Redacted]. The document was added to Spire on 2 April 2013 and is saved as "Confirmation demilitarizing.pdf". I've attached it here for ease of reference. You'll see that the letter is from the Norwegian Armed Forces confirming the measures they took before selling the [Redacted]

Regards for now

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 25 June 2014 14:25

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Nigeria: [Redacted] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE] OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE