2025 No 0000

RETAINED EU LAW REFORM

MERCHANT SHIPPING

The Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2025

Sift requirements satisfied	***
Made	***
Laid before Parliament	***
Coming into force	***

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The Secretary of State in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 12(1), 13(2) and (3), 14(2), (4)(c) and (e) and 20(1)(a) and (b) of the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023(a) ("the 2023 Act") makes the following Regulations.

The Secretary of State is a relevant national authority for the purposes of sections 12(1), 13(3) and 14(2) of the 2023 Act(b).

The requirements of paragraph 6(2) of Schedule 5 to the 2023 Act (relating to the appropriate Parliamentary procedure for these Regulations) have been satisfied.

Citation, commencement and extent

- 1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2025.
 - (2) These Regulations come into force on ****.
 - (3) These Regulations extend to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Revocation

2. The Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2011(c) are revoked.

Interpretation

- 3.—(1) In these Regulations—
 - "the Act" means the Merchant Shipping Act 1995(d);
 - "black list" means the black list of States for the purposes of the Paris MOU;
 - "classification society" means an organisation which—
 - (a) develops and applies technical standards for the design, construction and survey of ships, and
 - (b) carries out surveys and inspections on board ships;

⁽a) 2023 c. 28

⁽b) The term "relevant national authority" is defined in section 21(1) of the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act

⁽c) S.I. 2011/2601, amended by S.I. 2017/825, 2018/1104, 1122, 1221, 2019/940, 2020/496.

⁽d) 1995 c. 21.

"company" means the owner of the ship or any other organisation or person such as the manager, or the bareboat charterer, who has assumed the responsibility for operation of the ship from the owner of the ship and who, on assuming the responsibility, has agreed to take over all the duties and responsibilities imposed by the International Safety Management Code(a);

"competent authority" means the relevant maritime authority of a State;

"complaint" means any information or report submitted by a person or organisation with a legitimate interest in the safety of the ship, including an interest in safety or health hazards to its crew, on-board living and working conditions and the prevention of pollution;

"Convention enactment" means—

- (a) the Act, and
- (b) statutory instruments made under the Act (including statutory instruments made under an order made under the Act) which implement the Conventions;

"Conventions" means—

- (a) the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966(b);
- (b) the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969(c);
- (c) the Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972(d);
- (d) MARPOL;
- (e) SOLAS;
- (f) STCW;
- (g) the Protocol of 1988 relating to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974(e);
- (h) the Protocol of 1988 relating to the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966(f);
- (a) Also referred to as the ISM Code and adopted by IMO resolution A.741(18) on 4 November 1993. The code has been subsequently amended by IMO resolution MSC.104(73), MSC.179(79), MSC.195(80), MSC.273(85) and MSC.353(92). The Code and relevant amendments may be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR.
- (b) Cmnd. 3708, which may be found on the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office treaties database (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/data/Library2/pdf/1968-TS0058.pdf). The English text of the Convention was first published as part of "Miscellaneous No. 9 (1966) Cmnd. 3070". The Convention was modified by the Protocol of 1988 and amended by IMO Resolutions A.972(24), A.1082(28) and A.1083(28). The Protocol was amended by IMO Resolutions MSC.143(77), MSC.172(79), MSC.223(82), MSC.270(85), MSC.329(90), MSC.345(91), MSC.356(92) and MSC.375(93). The Convention may be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR The text of IMO Resolutions A.972(24), A.1082(28) and A.1083(28) may also be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization, or in Marine Information Note 560(M) issued by the Maritime Coastguard Agency and which is available in hard copy by prior appointment with the Maritime & Coastguard Agency, Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road, Southampton, SO15 1EG (telephone 020 3817 2000 and email infoline@mcga.gov.uk). See subparagraph (h) in the definition of "Conventions" for more information about the Protocol of 1988.
- (c) Cmnd. 8716, which may be found on the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office treaties database (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/awweb/pdfopener?md=1&did=68110). The Convention was previously published as "Miscellaneous No. 6 (1970) Cmnd. 4332". The Convention may be obtained in copy from the International Maritime Organization, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR.
- (d) Cmnd. 6962, which may be found on the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office treaties database (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/awweb/pdfopener?md=1&did=67638). The Convention was previously published in "Miscellaneous No. 28 (1973), Cmnd. 5471". The Convention was amended in 1981, 1987, 1989, 1993, 2001, 2009 and 2016. The Convention may be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR.
- (e) Cm 5044, which may be found on the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office treaties database (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/data/Library2/pdf/2001-TS0011.pdf). The Protocol was previously published as "Miscellaneous No. 27 (1999) Cm 4420". The Protocol of 1988 may be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR
- (f) Cm 4829, which may be found on the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office treaties database (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/awweb/pdfopener?md=1&did=69527). This Protocol was previously published as "Miscellaneous No. 26 (1999) Cm 4419". The Protocol and the text of the amendments made to it may be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization, or in Marine Information Note 560(M) issued by the Maritime & Coastguard Agency and available in hard copy by prior appointment with the Maritime & Coastguard Agency, Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road, Southampton, SO15 1EG (telephone 020 3817 2000 and email infoline@mcga.gov.uk).

- (i) the Protocol of 1992 to amend the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969(a);
- (j) the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships, 2001(b);
- (k) the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage, 2001(c);
- (l) the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004, including its Annex and Appendices(d);
- (m) the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006(e);
- (n) the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks(f);
- "detention notice" means a notice issued in accordance with regulation 12(3);
- "expanded inspection" means an inspection which covers at least the items listed in paragraph 7 of Annex 9 to the Paris MOU;
- "flag State" means the State whose flag the ship is entitled to fly;
- "flag State administration" in relation to a ship means the administration of the State whose flag the ship is entitled to fly;
- "grey list" means the grey list of States for the purposes of the Paris MOU;
- "IMO" means the International Maritime Organisation;
- "initial inspection" means an inspection in order to check compliance with the relevant conventions including at least the checks set out in regulation 7(1);
- "inspection" means-
- (a) an initial inspection;
- (b) a more detailed inspection;
- (c) an expanded inspection;
- "inspector" means a person duly authorised by the Secretary of State to carry out inspections required by these Regulations;
- (a) Cm 3432, which may be found on the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office treaties database (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/data/Library2/pdf/1996-TS0086.pdf). The Protocol was previously published as "Miscellaneous No. 36 (1994) Cm 2657". The Protocol of 1992 may be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR.
- (b) Cm 8284, which may be found on the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office treaties database (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/data/Library2/pdf/2012-TS0013.pdf). The Convention was previously published as "Miscellaneous No. 13 (2009) Cm 7781". The Convention may be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR.
- (c) Cm 8489, which may be found on the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office treaties database (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/data/Library2/pdf/2012-TS0047.pdf). The Convention was previously published as "Miscellaneous No. 8 (2005) Cm 6693". The Convention may be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR.
- (d) CP 557, which may be found on the National Archives database (https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6184f8fe8fa8f52979b6cbd4/MS_6.2021_Convention_Ships_Ballast_Water_ Sediment_2004.pdf). The Convention was adopted on 13th February 2004 by the International Conference on Ballast Water Management for Ships, 2004, convened by the International Maritime Organization. It entered into force on 8th September 2017 and has been amended by IMO Resolutions 2018 MEPC.296(72), 2018 MEPC.297(72), 2018 MEPC.299(72) and 2020 MEPC.325(75). The Convention is available from the International Maritime Organization, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR or from.
- (e) Cm 9364, which may be found on the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office treaties database (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/data/Library2/pdf/2016-TS0037.pdf). The Convention was previously published by the Department for Work and Pensions as "Cm No 7049 (2007)". The Convention may be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR.
- (f) Cm 9315, which may be found on the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office treaties database (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/data/Library2/pdf/2016-TS0030.pdf). The Convention was previously published as "Miscellaneous No. 5 (2011) Cm 8243". The Convention may be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR. Additionally, the Wreck Removal Convention Act 2011 (c. 8) inserted Part 9A and Schedule 11ZA into the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 to implement the requirements and text of the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks.

"IP completion day" means 31 December 2020 at 11.00 p.m. in accordance with section 39(1) of the European Union (Withdrawal Act) 2020(a);

"Maritime and Coastguard Agency" means the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, an executive agency of the Department for Transport;

"master" includes every person (except a pilot) having command or charge of a ship;

"MARPOL" means the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocols of 1978 and 1997(b);

"member state" means a state whose maritime authority is a signatory to the Paris MOU;

"Merchant Shipping Notice" means a notice described as such and issued by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and includes a reference to any document amending or replacing that Notice which is considered by the Secretary of State to be relevant from time to time and is specified in a Merchant Shipping Notice;

"more detailed inspection" means an inspection including an in-depth examination of the areas mentioned in paragraphs 4 and 5 of Annex 9 to the Paris MOU;

"owner" includes, in relation to a ship any individual or company, an operator, manager, charterer or agent who has assumed responsibility for the operation of the ship;

"Paris MOU" means the Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control, signed in Paris on 26 January 1982(c), including any amendments made to it before the IP completion day:

"Paris MOU region" means the geographical area in which the signatories to the Paris MOU conduct inspections in the context of the Paris MOU;

"port authority" means a harbour authority within the meaning section 57(1) of the Harbours Act 1964(**d**) or, in Northern Ireland, of the Harbours Act (Northern Ireland) 1970(**e**), or if there is no such authority, the person having control of the operation of the port;

"PSCC Instruction 56/2023/03" means the Port State Control Committee Instruction 56/2020/06(f) issued by the Paris MOU Organisation.

"recognised organisation" means a classification society or other body, authorised by and carrying out statutory tasks on behalf of a flag State;

"refusal of access notice" means a notice issued by a member state in respect of a ship, stating that the ship will be refused access to all ports and anchorages in the territory of any member state;

"ship" means a seagoing vessel to which one or more of the Conventions applies and includes hovercraft;

"SOLAS" means the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974(g);

- (a) 2020 c. 1; there are amendments to section 39(1) not relevant to these Regulations.
- (b) The Convention was published in Cmnd. 5748, and amended by the Protocols of 1978 (Cmnd. 7347) and 1997 (Cm. 4427). Hard copies of the Command Papers are available for inspection free of charge but by appointment at the Parliamentary Archives, Houses of Parliament, London, SW1A 0PW. The Parliamentary Archives catalogue numbers are as follows: HL/PO/JO/10/11/1853/505 (Cmnd. 5748), HL/PO/JO/10/11/1959/2033 (Cmnd. 7347) and HL/PO/JO/10/11/13156/2285 (Cm. 4427). Annex V to MARPOL has been amended by a number of International Maritime Organization ("IMO") Resolutions, most recently by MEPC.277(70). The amendments are available from the IMO of 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR.
- (c) The Paris MOU may be obtained in hard copy from the Secretariat Paris MOU on PSC, P.O. Box 16191, 2500 BC The Hague, The Netherlands, or found on their database (https://parismou.org/system/files/2023-06/Paris%20MoU%20including%2045th%20amendment.pdf) or obtained in hard copy by prior appointment with the Maritime & Coastguard Agency, Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road, Southampton, SO15 1EG (telephone 020 3817 2000 and email infoline@mcga.gov.uk).
- (d) 1964 c. 40; there are amendments to section 57(1) not relevant to these Regulations.
- (e) 1970 c. 1 (N.I.).
- (f) PSCC Instruction 56/2023/03 may be obtained in hard copy from the Secretariat Paris MOU on PSC, P.O. Box 16191, 2500 BC The Hague, The Netherlands, or by prior appointment with the Maritime & Coastguard Agency, Spring Place, 105 Commercial Road, Southampton, SO15 1EG (telephone 020 3817 2000 and email infoline@mcga.gov.uk).
- (g) Cmnd. 7874, which may be found on the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office treaties database (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/awweb/pdfopener?md=1&did=79786). SOLAS may be obtained in copy from the International Maritime Organization of 4 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR. SOLAS was modified by its Protocol of 1978 (Cmnd. 8277) (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/awweb/pdfopener?md=1&did=68013), which was replaced and abrogated by the

"STCW" means the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978(a);

"United Kingdom waters" has the meaning given in section 313(2)(a) of the Act.

- (2) References in these Regulations to the United Kingdom include United Kingdom waters.
- (3) A reference to "Conventions" is a reference to the version of the Conventions in force at the commencement of these Regulations, and thereafter in their up-to-date versions in so far as those versions—
 - (a) relate to all or any of the purposes set out in section 85(1) of the Act,
 - (b) are considered by the Secretary of State to be relevant from time to time, and
 - (c) are applicable under United Kingdom law,

and a reference to a Convention is a reference to any of the Conventions.

Application

- **4.**—(1) These Regulations apply to a ship and its crew calling at a port or anchorage in the United Kingdom to engage in a ship/port interface.
 - (2) These Regulations do not apply to—
 - (a) a British ship with the meaning of section 1 of the Act,
 - (b) a fishing vessel used for catching fish, whales, seals, walrus or other living resources of the sea,
 - (c) a warship,
 - (d) a naval auxiliary,
 - (e) a wooden ship of primitive build,
 - (f) a foreign government ship used for non-commercial purposes, or
 - (g) a pleasure yacht not engaged in trade.
- (3) An inspector must, when exercising functions in respect of a ship below 500 gross tonnage—
 - (a) have regard to Annex 1 to the Paris MOU,
 - (b) to the extent a Convention applies to the ship, apply the requirements of that Convention, and
 - (c) to the extent a Convention does not apply to the ship, take such action as may be necessary to ensure that the ship is not clearly hazardous to safety, health or the environment.
- (4) An inspection in the United Kingdom of a ship, while not in a port, may be considered an inspection for the purposes of these Regulations.
- (5) Section 284 of the Act (enforcing detention of a ship) applies in relation to a ship as if any reference to proceeding to sea were a reference to proceeding contrary to the detention notice and references to sending or taking to sea were construed accordingly where—

Protocol of 1988 (Cm 5044) (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/awweb/pdfopener?md=1&did=69573) with respect to the parties to the 1988 Protocol. The amendments to SOLAS are available from the International Maritime Organization of 4 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR or found on the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office treaties database (https://treaties.fcdo.gov.uk/responsive/app/consolidatedSearch/). Hard copies of the Command Papers are available for inspection free of charge but by appointment at the Parliamentary Archives, Houses of Parliament, London SW1A 0PW. The Parliamentary Archives catalogue numbers for the Command Papers are HL/PO/JO/10/11/2031/2878 (Cmnd 7874), HL/PO/JO/10/11/1959/2032 (Cmnd 8277) and HL/PO/JO/10/11/3156/2280 (Cm 5044).

(a) Cmnd 7543. The Annex to the STCW Convention was replaced in full in 2010 following the Manila Conference. The Convention has since been amended by IMO Resolutions MSC.373(93), MSC.396(95) and MSC.416(97). The STCW Convention and the amendments to it are available from the International Maritime Organization of 4 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR. Hard copies of the Command Papers are available for inspection free of charge but by appointment at the Parliamentary Archives, Houses of Parliament, London SW1A 0PW.

- (a) the ship is detained under a Convention enactment, or
- (b) the master of the ship is served with a detention notice under such an enactment.
- (6) In this regulation, "ship/port interface" means the interactions that occur when a ship is directly and immediately affected by actions involving the movement of persons or goods or the provision of port services to or from the ship.

Application of section 258 of the Act

- 5.—(1) Ships when in ports in the United Kingdom, may be inspected for the purpose of checking that the master and crew are familiar with essential procedures and operations relating to the safety of the ship.
- (2) Section 258(a) (powers to inspect ships and their equipment, etc.) of the Act applies in relation to a ship in a port in the United Kingdom as if, in subsection (1), after "articles on board" there were inserted "the familiarity of the crew with essential procedures and operations relating to the safety of the ship".

Inspections

- **6.**—(1) The Secretary of State may require an inspection of a ship to which these Regulations apply in accordance with the Paris MOU.
 - (2) The type of inspection will be determined in accordance with Annex 9 of the Paris MOU.
- (3) When carrying out an inspection the inspector must as a minimum carry out an initial inspection.

Initial inspections and more detailed inspections

- 7.—(1) In carrying out an initial inspection of a ship the inspector must as a minimum—
 - (a) check the certificates and documents listed in Annex 10 of the Paris MOU;
 - (b) verify, where appropriate, that outstanding deficiencies found during a previous inspection carried out by a member state have been rectified;
 - (c) check that the overall condition of the ship, including the hygiene of the ship, including engine room and accommodation is satisfactory.
- (2) A more detailed inspection must be carried out if—
 - (a) there are clear grounds for believing during the course of an initial inspection, that the condition of a ship or of its equipment or crew does not substantially meet the relevant requirements of a Convention, or
 - (b) where the flag state for the ship is not a signatory to the Conventions.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph (2) and regulation 8(2) clear grounds(**b**) exist when the inspector finds evidence which in the inspector's professional judgement warrants a more detailed inspection of the ship, its equipment or its crew.

Expanded inspection of certain ships

- **8.**—(1) An expanded inspection—
 - (a) is required for the following routine inspection of—
 - (i) ships with a high risk profile as determined under Annex 7 of the Paris MOU,

⁽a) Section 258 was amended by the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Act 1997 (c. 28), Schedule 1, paragraphs 4(2)(a) to (c), (3) and (4) and Schedule 7, Part 1 and the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 (c. 9), Schedule 2, Part 1 paragraph 2(1) and Schedule 10, Part 2.

⁽b) Examples of clear grounds are set out in paragraph 6 of Annex 9 to the Paris MOU.

- (ii) passenger ships, oil tankers, gas or chemical tankers or bulk carriers, older than 12 years of age, and
- (b) may be required for—
 - (i) ships with a high risk profile or passenger ships, oil tankers, gas or chemical tankers or bulk carriers, older than 12 years of age, in cases of—
 - (aa) overriding factors as set out in paragraph 11, or
 - (bb) unexpected factors as set out in paragraph 12,
 - of Annex 8 to the Paris MOU, or
 - (ii) ships subject to a re-inspection following a refusal of access order issued in accordance regulation 16(2) or (3).
- (2) An expanded inspection may include a more detailed inspection whenever there are clear grounds for believing that the condition of a ship or of its equipment or crew does not substantially meet the relevant requirements of a Convention, as described in regulation 7(2).
- (3) If this regulation applies, a ship must not leave the port or anchorage until the inspection is completed but this does not prevent the application of any control measures required for security purposes in accordance with, SOLAS, Chapter XI-2, Regulation 9.1 (special measures to enhance maritime security).

Notification of the arrival of ships

- 9.—(1) The master of a ship is required to give advance notice to the Secretary of State of the arrival of the ship into a port or anchorage in the United Kingdom in accordance with the requirements in Annex 12 of the Paris MOU.
 - (2) The minimum notice period for the purposes of paragraph (1) is—
 - (a) 24 hours in advance of the ship's arrival at the relevant port or anchorage, or
 - (b) as soon as this information is available if—
 - (i) the voyage time is less than 24 hours at the time the ship leaves the previous port or anchorage, or
 - (ii) if the port of call is not known or it is changed during the voyage.
 - (3) A notice provided for the purposes of paragraph (2) must include information about the—
 - (a) ship's identification such as—
 - (i) the mandatory IMO number and additional name,
 - (ii) call sign or a unique nine-digit maritime mobile service identity number, or both, that may have been issued in respect of a ship by the appropriate authority of the flag State,
 - (b) port of destination,
 - (c) estimated time of arrival, and
 - (d) estimated time of departure.

Inspection Report

- 10. On completion of an inspection required by these Regulations, the inspector must—
 - (a) prepare a written report in accordance with Schedule 1, and
 - (b) provide the ship's master with a copy of the report.

Professional profile of inspectors

11. An inspection under these Regulations must be carried out by a person who fulfils the minimum qualification criteria specified in Schedule 2.

Rectification and detention

- 12.—(1) The Secretary of State must inform the master of a ship of any deficiencies in relation to compliance with the Conventions which are confirmed or revealed by an inspection of the ship.
- (2) If an inspector has reason to believe that the deficiencies referred to in paragraph (1) are clearly hazardous to health, safety or the marine environment, the ship is liable to be detained by the inspector.
- (3) If an inspector decides to detain the ship, the inspector must do so by serving a notice ("a detention notice") on the master of the ship.
 - (4) A detention notice may—
 - (a) include a direction that a ship must remain in a particular place, or must move to a particular anchorage or berth, and
 - (b) specify circumstances when the master of the ship may move that ship from a specified place for reasons of safety or prevention of pollution.
- (5) A detention imposed by an inspector in the circumstances described in paragraph (2) must not be lifted until the Secretary of State has established that the ship can, depending on any necessary conditions to be met, proceed to sea or its operation be resumed without—
 - (a) risk to the safety and health of passengers or crew,
 - (b) risk to other ships, or
 - (c) there being an unreasonable threat of harm to the marine environment.
- (6) When exercising professional judgement as to whether or not a ship should be detained in accordance with paragraph (2), the inspector must apply the criteria set out in Schedule 3 but this does not prevent the application of any other requirement in the Convention enactments.
- (7) A ship must be detained if it is not equipped with a functioning voyage data recorder system when its use is compulsory in accordance with the Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Regulations 2020(a).
- (8) If paragraph (7) applies and the deficiency cannot readily be rectified in the port of detention, the inspector may—
 - (a) either allow the ship to proceed to the appropriate repair yard nearest to the port of detention if it is capable of being rectified and is to be so rectified, or
 - (b) require that the deficiency be rectified within a maximum period of 30 days.
- (9) In exceptional circumstances, if the overall condition of a ship is obviously substandard, the inspector may, in addition to detaining the ship, suspend the inspection of that ship until the responsible parties have taken the steps necessary to ensure that it complies with the relevant requirements of the Conventions.
- (10) If a ship is detained following an inspection the Secretary of State must immediately notify, in writing—
 - (a) the ship's flag State administration if this is possible,
 - (b) the Consul of the flag State if notification under sub-paragraph (a) is not possible, or
 - (c) the nearest diplomatic representative of the flag State if notification under sub-paragraph (a) or (b) is not possible.
- (11) The written information referred to in paragraph (10) must set out the reasons relating to the decision to detain the ship and must include the written report of the inspection prepared for the purposes of regulation 10.
- (12) The provisions of these Regulations do not prejudice the additional requirements of the Conventions concerning notification and reporting procedures related to port state control.

⁽a) S.I. 2020/673, amended by S.I. 2022/1219.

- (13) When carrying out an inspection under these Regulations, the inspector must make all possible efforts to avoid a ship being unduly detained or delayed.
- (14) The risk of port congestion must not be a consideration in a decision to detain a ship or to release a ship from detention.

Power to permit detained ships to proceed to repair yard

- 13.—(1) If deficiencies referred to in regulation 12(1) cannot be rectified in the port of inspection, an inspector may allow the ship to proceed without undue delay to the appropriate repair yard nearest to the port of detention, subject to any conditions under paragraph (2)(b).
 - (2) If paragraph (1) applies, the ship must—
 - (a) proceed to the repair yard agreed with the inspector, and
 - (b) comply with any other conditions determined by the competent authorities of the flag State administration and agreed by the inspector.
- (3) Conditions imposed under this regulation must ensure that the ship can proceed without risk to the safety and health of passengers or crew, or risk to other ships, or without there being an unreasonable threat of harm to the marine environment.

Prohibition on detained ships requiring repair from entering port

- **14.**—(1) Unless paragraph (2) or regulation 18 applies, a ship must not enter a port or anchorage within the United Kingdom following departure from a member state where it—
 - (a) was detained after an inspection revealed deficiencies clearly hazardous to safety, health or the environment, or
 - (b) was so detained and was allowed by the competent authority of the member state to proceed to the appropriate repair yard nearest to the port of detention.
- (2) This paragraph applies if the owner of a ship that was detained after an inspection in accordance with paragraph (1)(a) or (b), has provided evidence to the satisfaction of the competent authority of the member state of detention that the ship fully complies with all—
 - (a) the conditions relating to the deficiencies identified by the inspector, and
 - (b) the applicable requirements of the Conventions.

Refusal of access

15. Subject to regulation 18, a ship must not enter a port or anchorage in the United Kingdom if the ship has been refused access in a member state.

Power to issue a refusal of access notice

- **16.**—(1) This paragraph applies to a ship which—
 - (a) was detained in member state A, or
 - (b) was so detained and was allowed by the competent authority of member state A to proceed to a specified port of repair.
- (2) If paragraph (1) applies and the ship proceeds to sea—
 - (a) without complying with the conditions determined by the competent authority of the member state A, or
 - (b) without calling into the specified port of repair,

the ship is liable to be refused access from entering any port or anchorage in the Paris MOU region.

- (3) The Secretary of State must issue a refusal of access notice—
 - (a) to a ship which is refused access for the purposes of paragraph (2),

- (b) to a ship which—
 - (i) flies the flag of a State whose detention rate falls on the black list, and
 - (ii) has been detained more than twice in the course of the preceding 36 months in a port or anchorage of a member state,
- (c) to a ship which—
 - (i) flies the flag of a State whose detention rate falls on the grey list, and
 - (ii) has been detained more than twice in the course of the preceding 24 months in a port or anchorage of a member state,
- (d) to which regulation 12(2) or 13(1) apply and which proceeds to sea without satisfying the provisions of regulation 12(5) or 13(2) respectively.
- (4) In this regulation and regulation 17(3) "member state A" means a member state where a ship is detained after an inspection reveals deficiencies clearly hazardous to safety, health or the environment.

Effect of refusal of access notice

- 17.—(1) A refusal of access notice takes effect when the ship to which it applies leaves the port or anchorage where the refusal of access notice was issued.
- (2) A ship which is refused access for the purposes of regulation 16(2) and (3)(a) must not enter any port or anchorage within the United Kingdom unless the conditions in paragraph (3) are satisfied.
 - (3) The conditions are that—
 - (a) the owner or master has provided evidence to member state A confirming that—
 - (i) the flag state of the ship is satisfied that the ship fully complies with all applicable requirements of the relevant Conventions and the Paris MoU,
 - (ii) the classification society used for the ship has issued a document confirming that the ship meets the technical standards that apply to the ship including, any evidence of any on-board visit it has undertaken prior to the issue of the document, and
 - (b) upon consideration of any evidence from the owner or master, that member state A has lifted the refusal of access it imposed for the purposes of regulation 16(2).
 - (4) In relation to ships refused access for the purposes of regulation 16(3)(b) and (c)—
 - (a) a first or second refusal of access notice ceases to have effect when—
 - (i) the relevant conditions in Part 3 of PSCC Instruction 56/2023/03 have been met, and
 - (ii) if it is—
 - (aa) the first refusal of access notice in respect of that ship, three months have passed from the date of issue of the notice, or
 - (bb) the second refusal of access notice in respect of that ship, twelve months have passed from the date of issue of the notice,
 - (b) a third refusal of access notice ceases to have effect if—
 - (i) 24 months have passed from the date of issue of the notice,
 - (ii) the ship flies the flag of a State whose performance falls neither into the black list nor the grey list,
 - (iii) the statutory and the classification certificates of the ship are issued by an organisation or organisations which are recognised by one or more of the states that are signatories to the Paris MOU,

- (iv) that ship is managed by a company with a high performance determined in accordance with its ships' deficiency and detention rates within the Paris MOU region(a), and
- (v) the relevant conditions in Part 3 of PSCC Instruction 56/2023/03 have been met.
- (5) A refusal of access notice for the purposes of regulation 16(3)(b) and (c) becomes permanent if—
 - (a) a third refusal of access notice is issued,
 - (b) 24 months have elapsed beginning with the day on which the notice in sub-paragraph (a) was issued, and
 - (c) the requirements of paragraphs (4)(b)(i) to (v) have not been complied with in respect of the ship.
- (6) A ship which is detained in a port or anchorage within the Paris MOU region after a third refusal of access notice has been issued in respect of it must not enter a port or anchorage in the United Kingdom.

Exceptional circumstances when prohibited ships may be permitted to enter port

- 18.—(1) Notwithstanding regulations 14, 15, 16 and 17, the Secretary of State may allow a ship access to a specific port or anchorage in the United Kingdom if—
 - (a) the circumstances in paragraph (2) apply in relation to the ship, and
 - (b) the Secretary of State is satisfied that adequate measures to ensure safe entry of the ship have been implemented by its master.
 - (2) The circumstances are—
 - (a) force majeure,
 - (b) overriding safety considerations,
 - (c) the need to reduce or minimise the risk of pollution, or
 - (d) the need to have deficiencies rectified.

Rights of appeal and compensation

- 19.—(1) Regulations 20 and 21 apply in relation to the exercise of the power of detention or refusal of access in any Convention enactment except the Act and the Merchant Shipping (Survey and Certification) Regulations 2015(b).
- (2) Section 96(c) of the Act (references of detention notices to arbitration) applies in relation to a refusal of access notice issued under these Regulations as it applies to a detention notice under section 95(3)(d) of that Act, as if it were modified as follows—
 - (a) the references to "relevant inspector" were to a person making an inspection under these Regulations, and
 - (b) the following words were omitted—
 - (i) in subsection (1), "in pursuance of section 95(3)(b)",
 - (ii) in subsection (2), from "unless" to the end,
 - (iii) in subsection (3), "to whether the ship was or was not a dangerously unsafe ship", and
 - (iv) in subsection (5), "as a dangerously unsafe ship".

⁽a) A freely accessible performance calculator issue by the Paris MOU Organisation is available from their website (https://parismou.org/PMoU-Procedures/company-performance-calculator).

⁽b) S.I. 2015/508, amended by S.I. 2018/53, 1221, 2022/41, 1169, 1219, 2024/280.

⁽c) Section 96(7) was amended by the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 (c. 15), Schedule 10, paragraph 26(2) and (3). Section 96(10) was repealed by the Arbitration Act 1996 (c. 23), section 107(2) and Schedule 4, paragraph 1.

⁽d) Section 95(3) was amended by the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Act 1997 (c. 28), Schedule 1, paragraph 2(4).

- (3) Section 97 of the Act (compensation in connection with invalid detention of ship) applies in relation to a ship to which these Regulations applies as if, for subsection (1), there were substituted—
 - "(1) If on a reference under section 96 relating to a detention notice or refusal of access notice issued in relation to a ship, the owner of the ship shows to the satisfaction of the arbitrator that—
 - (a) any matter did not constitute a valid basis for the relevant inspector's opinion, and
 - (b) there were no reasonable grounds for the inspector to form that opinion,

the arbitrator may award the owner compensation in respect of any loss suffered by him in consequence of the detention of the ship or the service of the refusal of access notice as the arbitrator thinks fit."

Arbitration

- **20.**—(1) The owner or master of a ship may dispute a decision by an inspector to issue detention notice or refusal of access notice in connection with the ship, provided that—
 - (a) the owner or master of the ship gives notice to the inspector within 21 days from the service of the detention notice or refusal of access notice, and
 - (b) the owner or master and the inspector agree to appoint an appropriate arbitrator.
- (2) Except in relation to Scotland, if the owner or master of the ship and the inspector are unable to agree an arbitrator—
 - (a) the arbitrator may be appointed by an independent arbitration organisation nominated for that purpose by agreement between the owner or master of the ship and the inspector, and
 - (b) if there is no agreement under paragraph (2)(a), the arbitrator may be appointed by the High Court following a request made by—
 - (i) one party, after giving written notice to the other party, or
 - (ii) the parties jointly.
- (3) If a notice is given in accordance with paragraph (1)(a) or (2)(b)(i), the giving of the notice does not suspend the operation of the detention notice or refusal of access notice.
- (4) The arbitrator must have regard to any matter not specified in the detention notice or refusal of access notice which appears to the arbitrator to be relevant as to whether the ship was or was not liable to be detained or served with a refusal of access notice.
- (5) If the arbitrator decides, as respects a matter to which the reference relates, that in all the circumstances the matter did not constitute a valid basis for the inspector's opinion, the arbitrator must—
 - (a) cancel the detention notice or refusal of access notice, as the case may be, or
 - (b) affirm it with such modifications as the arbitrator may in the circumstances think fit.
- (6) In any case other than one described in paragraph (5) the arbitrator must affirm the detention notice or refusal of access notice in its original form.
- (7) The decision of the arbitrator must include a finding as to whether there was or was not a valid basis for the detention of the ship or for the service of a refusal of access notice.
- (8) A person is not qualified for appointment as an arbitrator under this regulation unless that person is—
 - (a) a person holding a certificate of competency as a master mariner or as a marine engineer officer class 1, or a person holding a certificate equivalent to those certificates,
 - (b) a naval architect,
 - (c) a person falling within paragraph (9), or
 - (d) a person with special experience of shipping matters, of the fishing industry, or of activities carried on in ports.

- (9) For the purposes of paragraph (8)(c) a person falls within this paragraph if that person—
 - (a) satisfies the judicial-appointment eligibility condition on a 7 year basis within the meaning of section 50 of the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007(a),
 - (b) is an advocate or solicitor in Scotland of at least 7 years' standing, or
 - (c) is a member of the bar of Northern Ireland or solicitor of the Court of Judicature of Northern Ireland of at least 7 years' standing.
- (10) In connection with any functions under this regulation an arbitrator has the powers conferred on an inspector by section 259 of the Act.
 - (11) In the application of this regulation to Scotland—
 - (a) any reference to an arbitrator is to be construed as a reference to an arbiter, and
 - (b) the reference in paragraph (1) to a single arbitrator appointed by agreement between the parties is to be construed as a reference to a single arbiter so appointed or, in default of agreement, appointed by the sheriff.

Compensation for unjustified detention

- **21.**—(1) Paragraph (2) applies if on a reference under regulation 20 relating to a detention notice or refusal of access notice, the arbitrator decides that the owner or master has proved—
 - (a) that the matter complained of did not constitute a valid basis for the inspector's opinion, and
 - (b) that there were no reasonable grounds for the issue of the detention notice or refusal of access notice.
- (2) The arbitrator must award the owner or master of the ship compensation in respect of any loss suffered in consequence of, as the case may be, the detention of the ship or the issue of a refusal of access notice, as the arbitrator thinks fit.
 - (3) Any compensation awarded under this regulation is payable by the Secretary of State.
- (4) In the application of this regulation to Scotland any reference to an arbitrator is to be construed as a reference to an arbiter.

Application of regulations 20 and 21 to ships detained under other Regulations

- **22.**—(1) Regulations 20 and 21 apply in relation to the exercise of the power of detention contained in—
 - (a) any regulations made under the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) Order1983(b);
 - (b) any regulations made under the Merchant Shipping (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Order 1987(c);
 - (c) any safety regulations made, or treated as made, under section 85(d) of the Act as they apply in relation to the exercise of a power of detention in accordance with these Regulations;
 - (d) regulation 8(2) of the Ship Recycling (Requirements in relation to Hazardous Materials on Ships) (Amendment etc.) Regulations 2018(e).

(b) S.I. 1983/1106, amended by S.I. 1985/2002, 1991/2885, 1993/1580, 2015/664.

⁽a) 2007 c. 15.

⁽c) S.I. 1987/470, amended by S.I. 1990/2595, 1997/2569, 1998/254, 2015/664.

⁽d) Section 85(1) was amended by the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Act 1997 (c. 28), section 8(2). Sections 85(1A) and (1B) were added by the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Act 1997, section 8(3). Section 85(3) was repealed in part and amended by the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Act 1997, section 8(4)(a) and (b) and Schedule 7, Part 1. Section 85(4) was amended by the Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Act 1997, section 8(5). Section 85(8) was added by the Health Act 2006 (c. 28), section 5(4).

⁽e) S.I. 2018/1122, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

- (2) Paragraph (1)(c) does not apply in relation to a ship which is not a United Kingdom ship in relation to
 - (a) the Merchant Shipping (Ro-Ro Passenger Ships) (Stability) Regulations 2004(a);
 - (b) the Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping) Regulations 2022(b).

Duty on pilots and port authorities to report anomalies

- 23.—(1) This regulation applies to a pilot falling within paragraph (2) who is—
 - (a) engaged in the berthing or unberthing of a ship at a port or anchorage in the United Kingdom, or
 - (b) engaged on a ship—
 - (i) bound for a port or anchorage in the United Kingdom, or
 - (ii) in transit through United Kingdom waters.
- (2) A pilot falls within this paragraph if—
 - (a) the pilot is authorised under section 3 of the Pilotage Act 1987(c), or
 - (b) the pilot boards the ship in the United Kingdom.
- (3) If a pilot learns, in the course of their normal duties, that there are apparent anomalies which may prejudice the safe navigation of the ship, or which may pose a threat of harm to the marine environment, the pilot must immediately inform—
 - (a) if the pilot falls within paragraph (2)(a), the port authority which authorised the pilot,
 - (b) in any other case,
 - (i) the Secretary of State, or
 - (ii) the competent authority of a coastal member state.
 - (4) A port authority must immediately inform the Secretary of State if it—
 - (a) receives information from a pilot in accordance with paragraph (3)(a), or
 - (b) learns, in the course of its normal duties, that a ship within its port has apparent anomalies which may prejudice the safety of the ship or poses an unreasonable threat of harm to the marine environment.
- (5) The information provided in accordance with paragraph (3) or (4) must be in electronic format whenever possible and must include—
 - (a) the ship's name, IMO number and call sign,
 - (b) the flag under which the ship is sailing,
 - (c) the previous port of call,
 - (d) the port of destination, and
 - (e) a description of the apparent anomalies.

Duty on port authorities to report ship arrivals and departures, etc

- **24.**—(1) A port authority must provide the information specified in paragraph (2) in respect of each ship calling at its port or anchorage to the Secretary of State, in a reasonable time and, whenever possible, in electronic format.
 - (2) The information is—
 - (a) the identifier of the port concerned,

⁽a) S.I. 2004/2884, amended by S.I. 2018/1221, 2023/984.

⁽b) S.I. 2022/1342.

⁽c) 1987 c. 21. Section 3(9A) and (10) were amended by the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (asc 1), Schedule 6, paragraph 3(a) and (b) and by S.I. 2002/808, 2003/1230, 2006/1031, 2020/671.

- (b) the ship's name, IMO number and call sign, and
- (c) the ship's actual time of arrival or departure as appropriate.
- (3) A port authority must also provide the Secretary of State with information in its possession about—
 - (a) a ship which fails to notify any information in accordance with—
 - (i) the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Port Waste Reception Facilities) Regulations 2003(a);
 - (ii) the Merchant Shipping (Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Reporting Requirements) Regulations 2004(b);
 - (iii) Regulation (EC) No 725/2004(c) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 on enhancing ship and port facility security;
 - (b) a ship which proceeds to sea without having complied with regulation 12 or 16 of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Port Waste Reception Facilities) Regulations 2003:
 - (c) a ship which has been denied entry to, or expelled from, the port on security grounds.
- (4) The information provided in accordance with paragraph (3) must include the ship's name, IMO number and call sign.

Complaints

- **25.**—(1) Any complaint relating to a ship that is submitted to the Secretary of State, must be assessed as quickly as possible to determine whether it is justified.
 - (2) If the complaint is determined to be justified, the Secretary of State must—
 - (a) inform the complainant of that conclusion and of any follow-up action to be taken with regard to the complaint;
 - (b) ensure that anyone directly concerned by that complaint can make their views known;
 - (c) take such action as the Secretary of State considers necessary;
 - (d) inform International Labour Organisation if appropriate, of the complaint and action taken.
- (3) If the complaint is determined not to be justified, the Secretary of State must inform the complainant of the reasons for this conclusion if this is practicable.
- (4) The Secretary of State must not reveal the identity of the complainant to the owner or master of the ship that is the subject of a complaint.
- (5) An inspector interviewing any members of the crew of the ship concerning the complaint must ensure the confidentiality of complainants during any interviews.

Costs

- **26.**—(1) All costs relating to any inspection for the purposes of, or in connection with, a refusal of access notice (including the lifting of a refusal of access notice) for which these Regulations provide are recoverable from the company, owner or their representative in the United Kingdom.
- (2) If a ship is detained for deficiencies in relation to the requirements of a Convention or to regulation 12(7), the owner or their representative in the United Kingdom is liable to pay—
 - (a) all costs of inspections which confirm or reveal—

⁽a) S.I. 2003/1809, amended by S.I. 2009/1176, 2016/1211, 2018/68, 1221.

⁽b) S.I. 2004/2110, amended by S.I. 2005/1092, 2008/3145, 2011/2616, 2014/3306, 2018/68, 1221, 2019/42, 2020/673, 2024/636

⁽c) EUR 2004/725, amended by S.I. 2019/308.

- (i) deficiencies in relation to the requirements of a Convention warranting the detention of the ship, or
- (ii) that the ship is not equipped with a functioning voyage data recorder system when its use is compulsory in accordance with the Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Regulations 2020, and
- (b) all costs relating to the detention in port or anchorage.
- (3) Any detention in relation to deficiencies under these Regulations, or a Convention enactment must not be lifted until any appropriate fee payable and any other costs payable under paragraphs (1) and (2) have been paid, or the person to whom they are due has been provided with sufficient security for them.
- (4) In paragraph (3), "appropriate fee" means in the case of a detention made in relation to deficiencies under these Regulations or a Convention enactment, a fee payable under the Merchant Shipping (Fees) Regulations 2018(a) in respect of an inspection leading to, or arising from, the detention.

Offences and penalties

- 27.—(1) The owner and master of a ship are each guilty of an offence—
 - (a) if there is any contravention of the restriction on leaving port in regulation 8(3) (expanded inspections),
 - (b) if there is any contravention of a direction made under regulation 12(4)(a) (contents of detention notices) in respect of the ship,
 - (c) if a ship to which regulation 12(8) (ship requires rectification) applies, fails to—
 - (i) proceed to the repair yard specified, or
 - (ii) comply with the requirement that the deficiency be rectified within 30 days,
 - (d) if the ship is permitted to leave a port under regulation 13(1) (detained ships permitted to proceed to an agreed repair yard) but fails to proceed to the agreed repair yard or to comply with any other conditions for the purposes of regulation 13(2), or
 - (e) if the ship enters a port or anchorage in breach of regulation 14(1) (prohibition on detained ships requiring repair from entering port), 16(3)(b) and (c) (refusal of access to ships on the black list or the grey list) or 17(6) (refusal of access to United Kingdom ports and anchorages following third refusal of access notice).
- (2) A person commits an offence if that person—
 - (a) fails to comply with a requirement of a detention notice issued under regulation 12(3), or
 - (b) obstructs an inspector or a person assisting the inspector.
- (3) A pilot commits an offence if that pilot contravenes regulation 23(3) (requirement to report any anomalies).
- (4) A port authority commits an offence if that port authority contravenes regulation 23(4) (pilot authorisation authority and anomalies relating to the ship), 24(1) or (3) (ship information).
 - (5) A person who commits an offence under—
 - (a) paragraph (1)(a), (3) or (4), is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale;
 - (b) paragraph (2)(b), is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale.
 - (6) A person who commits an offence under paragraph (1)(b), (c), (d), (e) or (2)(a) is liable—
 - (a) on summary conviction—
 - (i) in England and Wales to a fine,

⁽a) S.I. 2018/1104, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

- (ii) in Scotland or Northern Ireland to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum, or
- (b) on conviction on indictment by imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or a fine, or both.
- (7) It is a defence—
 - (a) for a person charged with an offence under this regulation to prove that the person charged took all reasonable steps to avoid the commission of the offence, and
 - (b) for a port authority charged under paragraph (4) with contravention of regulation 24 to prove that it had been informed by the Secretary of State that the Secretary of State was not ready to receive the information to which regulation 24 applies.

Consequential amendments and revocations

28. The statutory instruments set out under column 1 of the table in Schedule 4 are amended or revoked to the extent specified under column 2 of that table.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Transport

Name
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Transport

Date

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1

Regulation 10(a)

Inspection report

The inspection report must contain the following information.

1. General—

- (a) date and place of the inspection;
- (b) name of the ship inspected;
- (c) flag State;
- (d) type of ship, as indicated in the Safety Management Certificate issued for the purposes of Regulation 4, Chapter IX of SOLAS;
- (e) IMO number;
- (f) the ship's call sign;
- (g) gross tonnage;
- (h) year of construction as determined on the basis of the date indicated in the ship's safety certificates;
- (i) the name of each classification society and, if relevant any other organisation, which may have issued a classification certificate in respect of the ship;
- (j) the name of the recognised organisation and any other party by whom certificates have been issued on behalf of the flag State, in respect of the ship, in accordance with the applicable Conventions;
- (k) name and address of the ship's company;
- (l) name and address of the charterer responsible for the selection of the ship and type of charter in the case of ships carrying liquid or solid cargoes in bulk;
- (m) final date of writing the inspection report;
- (n) indication that specific information on an inspection or a detention may be published.

2. Information relating to inspection—

- (a) details of certificates issued in application of the relevant Conventions and of the authority or organisation that issued each certificate, including the date of issue and expiry;
- (b) in so far as it is possible to do so, the port and date of the last intermediate, annual or renewal survey as defined in section 2 of Annex 5 to the International Maritime Organization Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification(a) and the name of the organisation which carried out the survey;
- (c) nature of any deficiencies;
- (d) the date by which any deficiency must be satisfactorily addressed by any measures taken.

⁽a) The guidelines were adopted on 6 December 2023 by Resolution A.1186(33). The guidelines may be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR and from the IMO database (https://www.cdn.imo.org/localresources/en/OurWork/IIIS/Documents/A%2033-Res.1186%20-%20SURVEY%20GUIDELINES%20UNDER%20THE%20HARMONIZED%20SYSTEMOF%20SURVEY%20AND%2 0CERTIFICATION%20(HSSC),%202023%20(Secretary-General).pdf).

- 3. Additional information in the event of detention—
 - (a) date of the detention notice;
 - (b) nature of the deficiencies warranting the detention notice, with references to the Conventions, if relevant;
 - (c) indication, if relevant, of whether the recognised organisation that carried out the survey has a responsibility in relation to the deficiency which alone, or in combination with any other deficiency, led to detention;
 - (d) the date by which any deficiency must be satisfactorily addressed by any measures taken.

SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 11

Minimum criteria for an inspector

- 1.—(1) The Secretary of State is satisfied that an inspector—
 - (a) has the appropriate theoretical knowledge and practical experience of ships and their operation, and
 - (b) is competent in the enforcement of the requirements of the Conventions and the relevant Paris MOU procedures.
- (2) The knowledge and competence required for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) must be acquired through documented training programmes.
 - 2. An inspector must, as a minimum, have either—
 - (a) passed professional examinations from a marine or nautical institution and gained relevant seagoing experience as a certified ship officer holding or having held a valid certificate of competency issued in accordance with the provisions of the STCW Regulation II/2 or Regulation III/2, not limited as regards the operating area or propulsion power or tonnage,
 - (b) passed a professional examination recognised by the Secretary of State to qualify as a naval architect, mechanical engineer or any other engineer working in a maritime field and worked in that capacity for at least five years, or
 - (c) a relevant university degree or equivalent and have trained and qualified as a ship safety inspector.
 - 3. An inspector must have—
 - (a) completed a minimum of one year's service authorised by the Secretary of State either dealing with surveys and certification in accordance with the Conventions or involved in the monitoring of activities of recognised organisations, or
 - (b) gained an equivalent level of competence by following a minimum of one year's field training participating in port state control inspections under the guidance of experienced port state control inspectors.
- **4.** An inspector who meets the criteria set out in paragraph 2(a) must have gained maritime experience of at least 5 years including a period—
 - (a) as a deck or engine officer with at least two years experience in that role working at sea,
 - (b) as an inspector meeting the requirements of paragraph 3(a), or
 - (c) as an assistant to a port state control inspector carrying out inspections.
- **5.** An inspector must have the ability to communicate orally and in writing with seafarers in English.

- **6.** The Secretary of State is satisfied that an inspector has sufficient theoretical and practical experience in maritime security including—
 - (a) a good understanding of maritime security and how it is applied to the operations being examined:
 - (b) a good working knowledge of security technologies and techniques;
 - (c) a knowledge of inspection principles, procedures and techniques;
 - (d) a working knowledge of the operations being examined.

SCHEDULE 3

Regulation 12(6)

Criteria for detention of a ship

Introduction

- 1.—(1) Before determining whether deficiencies found during an inspection warrant detention of the ship involved, the inspector must apply the criteria under paragraphs 2 and 3.
- (2) Paragraph 4 includes examples of deficiencies that may on their own warrant detention of the ship involved for the purposes of regulation 12(6).
- (3) If the ground for detention is the result of accidental damage suffered on the ship's voyage to a port, no detention order shall be issued, provided that—
 - (a) due account has been given to the requirements contained in Chapter I, Regulation 11(c) of SOLAS regarding notification to the flag State administration, the nominated surveyor or the recognised organisation responsible for issuing the relevant certificate,
 - (b) prior to entering a port, the master or owner has submitted to the Secretary of State details of the circumstances regarding the accident, the damage suffered by the ship and information about the required notification to the flag State administration,
 - (c) appropriate remedial action is being taken by the ship to the satisfaction of the Authority, and
 - (d) the authority has ensured that having been notified of the completion of the remedial action, that deficiencies which were clearly hazardous to safety, health or the environment have been rectified.

Main criteria

2.—(1) When exercising his professional judgement as to whether or not a ship should be detained the inspector must apply the following criteria.

Timing

(2) Ships which are unsafe to proceed to sea must be detained upon the first inspection irrespective of how much time the ship will stay in port.

Criterion

- (3) This sub-paragraph applies if the ship has deficiencies which are sufficiently serious to merit an inspector returning to the ship to ensure that those deficiencies have been rectified before the ship sails.
- (4) If sub-paragraph (3) applies, before the ship is permitted to depart, the Secretary of State must verify that the deficiencies have been rectified—
 - (a) following a further inspection of the ship by an inspector, or
 - (b) through some other means acceptable to the authority.

Application of main criteria

- **3.**—(1) When deciding whether the deficiencies found in a ship are sufficiently serious to merit detention the inspector must assess whether—
 - (a) the ship has relevant, valid documentation required under the Conventions or these Regulations;
 - (b) the ship has the crew required for the purposes of the Minimum Safe Manning Document issued under SOLAS, Chapter V, Regulation 14.
- (2) During inspection the inspector must further assess whether throughout the forthcoming voyage, the ship or the crew, or where relevant the ship and the crew, are able to—
 - (a) navigate safely;
 - (b) safely handle, carry and monitor the condition of the cargo;
 - (c) operate the engine room safely;
 - (d) maintain proper propulsion and steering;
 - (e) fight fires effectively in any part of the ship if necessary;
 - (f) abandon ship speedily and safely and effect rescue if necessary;
 - (g) prevent pollution of the environment;
 - (h) maintain adequate stability;
 - (i) maintain adequate watertight integrity;
 - (j) communicate in distress situations if necessary;
 - (k) provide safe and healthy conditions on board;
 - (l) provide the maximum of information in case of accident.
- (3) If the answer to any of the assessments under sub-paragraph (1) or (2) is negative, taking into account all deficiencies found, the ship must be strongly considered for detention.
- (4) A combination of deficiencies of a less serious nature may also warrant the detention of the ship.

Deficiencies considered so serious that they may warrant detention of a ship

General considerations

- 4.—(1) The general matters to consider before detaining a ship are—
 - (a) if certificates and documents as required under the Conventions or these Regulations are lacking;
 - (b) that subject to paragraph (4), the absence of required certificates does not by itself constitute a reason to detain ships flying the flag of States that are not party to a relevant Convention or which have not implemented another relevant instrument;
 - (c) if in applying the 'no more favourable treatment' provision in section 2, paragraph 2.3 of the Paris MOU, substantial compliance with the Conventions is required before the ship sails.
- (2) The following paragraphs include a non-exhaustive list of deficiencies, grouped under the relevant Conventions or Codes, or both, as listed below, which are considered of such a serious nature that they may warrant the detention of the ship involved.

Areas under SOLAS

- (3) The deficiencies under SOLAS are—
 - (a) failure of the proper operation of propulsion and other essential machinery, as well as electrical installations;
 - (b) insufficient cleanliness of engine room, excessive amount of oily-water mixtures in bilges, insulation of piping, including exhaust pipes in engine room contaminated by oil, improper operation of bilge pumping arrangements;

- (c) failure of the proper operation of the emergency generator, lighting, batteries and switches;
- (d) failure of the proper operation of the main and auxiliary steering gear;
- (e) absence, insufficient capacity or serious deterioration of personal life-saving appliances, survival craft and launching arrangements absence, non-compliance or substantial deterioration of the fire detection system, fire alarms, firefighting equipment, fixed fire-extinguishing installation, ventilation valves, fire dampers, quick-closing devices to the extent that they cannot comply with their intended use;
- (f) absence, substantial deterioration or failure of proper operation of the cargo deck area fire protection on tankers;
- (g) absence, non-compliance or serious deterioration of lights, shapes or sound signals;
- (h) absence or failure of the proper operation of the radio equipment for distress and safety communication;
- (i) absence or failure of the proper operation of navigation equipment, taking the provisions of SOLAS, Chapter V, Regulation 16.2 into account;
- (j) absence of corrected navigational charts, or all other relevant nautical publications necessary for the intended voyage, or both, taking into account that a type approved electronic chart display and information system operating on official data may be used as a substitute for the charts;
- (k) absence of non-sparking exhaust ventilation for cargo pump rooms;
- (l) number, composition or certification of the crew not corresponding with SOLAS, Chapter 5, Regulation 14;
- (m) failure to carry out the enhanced survey programme in accordance with SOLAS Chapter XI-1, Regulation 2.

Areas under the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk(a) ("the IBC Code")

- (4) The deficiencies under the IBC Code are—
 - (a) transport of a substance not mentioned in the Certificate of Fitness issued for the purposes of the IBC Code under MARPOL or missing cargo information;
 - (b) missing or damaged high-pressure safety devices;
 - (c) electrical installations not intrinsically safe or not corresponding to code requirements;
 - (d) sources of ignition in hazardous locations;
 - (e) contraventions of special requirements;
 - (f) exceeding of maximum allowable cargo quantity per tank;
 - (g) insufficient heat protection for sensitive products.

Areas under the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk(b) ("the IGC Code")

- (5) The deficiencies under the IGC Code are—
 - (a) transportion of a substance not mentioned in the Certificate of Fitness or missing cargo information;
 - (b) missing closing devices for accommodation or service spaces;
 - (c) bulkhead not gas tight;

⁽a) The complete text of the IBC Code was replaced on 1 January 2007 by IMO Resolution MSC.176(79) / MEPC.119(52). The IBC Code may be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization of 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR.

⁽b) Also referred to as the IGC Code. The complete text of this Code was replaced on 1 January 2016 by IMO Resolution MSC. 370(93). The Code may be obtained in hard copy from the International Maritime Organization of 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR.

- (d) defective air locks;
- (e) missing or defective quick-closing valves;
- (f) missing or defective safety valves;
- (g) electrical installations not intrinsically safe or not corresponding to code requirements;
- (h) ventilators in cargo area not operable;
- (i) pressure alarms for cargo tanks not operable;
- (j) gas detection plant or toxic gas detection plant, or both, are defective;
- (k) transport of substances is to be inhibited without valid inhibitor certificate.

Areas under International Convention on Load Lines 1966

- (6) The deficiencies under the International Convention on Load Lines 1966 are—
 - (a) significant areas of damage or corrosion, or pitting of plating and associated stiffening in decks and hull affecting seaworthiness or strength to take local loads, unless proper temporary repairs for a voyage to a port for permanent repairs have been carried out;
 - (b) a recognised case of insufficient stability for the purposes of any applicable Convention requirement;
 - (c) the absence of sufficient and reliable information, in an approved form, which by rapid and simple means, enables the master to arrange for the loading and ballasting of the ship in a way—
 - (i) that a safe margin of stability is maintained at all stages and at varying conditions of the voyage, and
 - (ii) that the creation of any unacceptable stresses in the ship's structure are avoided;
 - (d) absence, substantial deterioration or defective closing devices, hatch closing arrangements and watertight doors;
 - (e) overloading;
 - (f) absence of a draught mark or the draught mark is impossible to read.

Areas under MARPOL, Annex I

- (7) The deficiencies under Annex I of MARPOL are—
 - (a) absence, serious deterioration or failure of proper operation of the oily-water filtering equipment, the oil discharge monitoring and control system or the 15 parts per million alarm arrangements under regulation 15, Annex I of MARPOL;
 - (b) remaining capacity of slop or sludge tank, or both, is insufficient for the intended voyage;
 - (c) oil Record Book not available;
 - (d) unauthorised discharge bypass fitted;
 - (e) survey report file missing or not in conformity with Regulation 13G(3)(b) of MARPOL.

Areas under MARPOL, Annex II

- (8) The deficiencies under Annex II of MARPOL are—
 - (a) absence of the Procedures and Arrangements Manual for the purposes of regulation 14, Annex II of MARPOL;
 - (b) cargo is not categorised;
 - (c) no cargo record book available
 - (d) transport of oil-like substances without meeting the requirements or without an appropriately amended certificate
 - (e) unauthorised discharge bypass fitted.

Areas under MARPOL, Annex V

- (9) The deficiencies under Annex V of MARPOL are—
 - (a) absence of the garbage management plan;

- (b) no garbage record book available;
- (c) ship's personnel not familiar with disposal/discharge requirements of garbage management plan.

Areas under the STCW and the Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping) Regulations 2022(a)

- (10) The deficiencies under the STCW and the Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping) Regulations 2022 are—
 - (a) failure of seafarers to hold a certificate of proficiency, to have an appropriate certificate of proficiency, to have a valid dispensation or to provide documentary proof that an application for an endorsement has been submitted to the flag State administration;
 - (b) evidence that a certificate has been fraudulently obtained or the holder of a certificate is not the person to whom that certificate was originally issued;
 - (c) failure to comply with the applicable safe manning requirements of the flag State administration;
 - (d) failure of navigational or engineering watch arrangements to conform to the requirements specified for the ship by the flag State administration;
 - (e) absence in a watch of a person qualified to operate equipment essential to safe navigation, safety radio communications or the prevention of marine pollution;
 - (f) failure to provide proof of professional proficiency for the duties assigned to seafarers for the safety of the ship and the prevention of pollution;
 - (g) inability to provide for the first watch at the commencement of a voyage and for subsequent relieving watches persons who are sufficiently rested and otherwise fit for duty.

Areas under Maritime Labour Convention 2006 ("MLC")

- (11) The deficiencies under MLC are—
 - (a) insufficient food for voyage to next port;
 - (b) insufficient potable water for voyage to next port;
 - (c) excessively unsanitary conditions on board;
 - (d) no heating in accommodation of a ship operating in areas where temperatures may be excessively low;
 - (e) insufficiently ventilated accommodation;
 - (f) excessive garbage, blockage by equipment or cargo or otherwise unsafe conditions in passageways/accommodations;
 - (g) clear evidence that watchkeeping and other duty personnel for the first watch or subsequent relieving watches are impaired by fatigue;
 - (h) the conditions on board are clearly hazardous to the safety, health or security of seafarers;
 - (i) the non-conformity constitutes a serious or repeated breach of the requirements of MLC (including seafarer's rights) relating to the living and working conditions of seafarers on the ship, as stipulated in the ship's maritime labour certificate and declaration of maritime labour compliance.

Other areas which may not warrant a detention, but where, for example, cargo operations have to be suspended

5. Failure of the proper operation or maintenance of the inert gas system, cargo-related gear or machinery are considered to be sufficient grounds for stopping cargo operation.

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⁽a) S.I. 2022/1342.

Consequential amendments and revocations

Column 1	Column 2	
The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels	In regulation 17 for—	
(Health and Safety at Work) (Electromagnetic Fields) Regulations 2016(a)	(a) "14, 15 and 16" substitute "19, 20 and 21", and	
	(b) for "2011" substitute "2025".	
The Merchant Shipping (Monitoring, Reporting and Verification of Carbon Dioxide Emissions) and the Port State Control (Amendment) Regulations 2017(b)	Regulation 11 is revoked.	
The Fishing Vessels (Codes of Practice)	In regulation 16—	
Regulations 2017(c)	(c) for "14, 15 and 16" substitute "19, 20 and 21", and	
	(d) for "2011" substitute "2025".	
The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of	In regulation 37—	
Pollution from Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk) Regulations 2018(d)	(a) in paragraph (1)—	
	(i) for "15 and 16" substitute "20 and 21",	
	(ii) for "2011 (arbitration and compensation)" substitute "2025 (arbitration and compensation for unjustified detention)",	
	(b) omit paragraph (2)(b)(ii), and	
	(c) in paragraph (2)(c), for "16(2)" substitute "21(3)".	
The Merchant Shipping (Fees) Regulations 2018(e)	In regulation 7(2), omit sub-paragraph "(d)".	
	In Schedule 1 (fees under the Merchant Shipping Act 1995), in paragraph 2(1)(e) of Part 1 (surveys, inspections and applications for exemption) for "Part I of the Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2011 applies", substitute "the Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2025 apply".	
The Ship Recycling (Requirements in relation to Hazardous Materials on Ships) (Amendment	Regulation 7 is revoked.	

⁽a) S.I. 2016/1026.
(b) S.I. 2017/825, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(c) S.I. 2017/943, to which there is an amendment not relevant to these Regulations.
(d) S.I. 2018/68, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(e) S.I. 2018/1104, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

etc.) Regulations 2018(a)	In the Heading of regulation 8, for "Part 1 of the Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2011 does" substitute "the Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2025 do". In regulation 8(1), for "Part 1 of the Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2011 does" substitute "the Merchant Shipping (Port
	State Control) Regulations 2025 do".
The Merchant Shipping (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Amendments etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018(b)	In the Schedule (amendments of secondary legislation on exit day), paragraph 23 is revoked.
The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil	In regulation 41—
Pollution) Regulations 2019(c)	(a) in paragraph (1)—
	(i) for "15 and 16 of the Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2011 (arbitration and compensation)" substitute "20 and 21 of the Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2025 (arbitration and compensation for unjustified detention)", and
	(ii) omit "Part 1 of",
	(b) in paragraph (2)—
	(i) in sub-paragraph (b)—
	(aa) in paragraph (i), for "16(1)" substitute "21(1)",
	(bb) omit paragraph (ii),
	(cc) in paragraph (iii), for "15 and 16" substitute "20 and 21",
	(dd) In paragraph (iv), for "15(4)" substitute "20(4)",
	(ee) In paragraph (v), for "15(7)" substitute "20(7)", and
	(ii) in sub-paragraph (c), for "16(2)" substitute "21(3)".
The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2019(d)	Regulation 3 is revoked.
The Merchant Shipping (Port State Control and Prevention of Pollution from Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk) (Amendment) Regulations 2020(e)	Regulation 2 is revoked.

⁽a) S.I. 2018/1122, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(b) S.I. 2018/1221, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(c) S.I. 2019/42, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(d) S.I. 2019/940.
(e) S.I. 2020/496.

The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of	In regulation 29—	
Pollution by Sewage from Ships) Regulations	(a) in paragraph (1)—	
2020(a)	(i) for "15 (arbitration) and 16 (compensation)" substitute "20 (arbitration) and 21 (compensation for unjustified detention)",	
	(ii) for "2011" substitute "2025", and	
	(iii) omit "Part 1 (implementation of Directive 2009/16/EC) of",	
	(b) in paragraph (2)—	
	(i) omit sub-paragraph (b)(ii), and	
	(ii) in sub-paragraph (c), for "16(2)" substitute "21(3)".	
The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of	In regulation 20—	
Pollution by Garbage from Ships) Regulations 2020(b)	(a) in paragraph (1)—	
2020(0)	(i) for "15 (arbitration) and 16 (compensation)" substitute "20 (arbitration) and 21 (compensation for unjustified detention)",	
	(ii) for "2011" substitute "2025", and	
	(iii) omit "Part 1 (implementation of Directive 2009/16/EC) of",	
	(b) in paragraph (2)—	
	(i) omit sub-paragraph (b)(ii), and	
	(ii) in sub-paragraph (c), for "16(2)" substitute "21(3)".	
The Merchant Shipping (Control and	In regulation 43—	
Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments) Regulations 2022(c)	(a) in paragraph (1)—	
Scullients) Regulations 2022(c)	(i) for "15 (arbitration) and 16 (compensation)" substitute "20 (arbitration) and 21 (compensation for unjustified detention)",	
	(ii) for "2011" substitute "2025", and	
	(iii) omit "Part 1 (implementation of Directive 2009/16/EC) of",	
	(b) in paragraph (2)—	
	(i) omit sub-paragraph (b)(ii), and	
	(ii) in sub-paragraph (c), for "16(2)" substitute "21(3)".	
The Merchant Shipping (Inspections of Ro-Ro Passenger Ships and High-Speed Passenger Craft) Regulations 2023(d)	In regulation 2(1), in the definition of "port state control inspection", for "2011" substitute "2025".	

⁽a) S.I. 2020/620, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(b) S.I. 2020/621, to which there is an amendment not relevant to these Regulations.
(c) S.I. 2022/737.
(d) S.I. 2023/984.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

The United Kingdom is a signatory to the Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control which provides an international regime for the enforcement of standards for ship safety, pollution prevention and shipboard living and working conditions for ships. These Regulations apply to ships that are flagged with foreign States and which call at a port or anchorage in the United Kingdom. These Regulations revoke and restate, or replace, the Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 2011/2601).

In these Regulations—

- regulations 1 to 8 set out the commencement, extent, revocation and interpretive provisions and information about the ships to which the Regulations apply and inspections of those ships;
- regulations 9 provides for the prior notification requirements relating to a ship due to call at a port or anchorage within the United Kingdom;
- regulation 10 and Schedule 1 provide for an inspection report to be completed following an inspection of a ship and for a copy to be provided to the master of the ship and regulation 11 and Schedule 2 provide for the qualification criteria to be satisfied by inspectors;
- regulation 12 and Schedule 3, regulations 13 to 14 deal with all the matters related to the rectification and detention of ships and circumstances when such ships may be permitted to proceed to an appropriate repair yard;
- regulations 15 to 17, provide for refusal of access to ships and the effect of such refusals;
- regulation 18 provides for exceptional circumstances under which prohibited ships may be permitted to enter a port;
- regulations 19 to 21 set out the rights of appeal, arbitration and compensation;
- regulation 22 permits the application of regulation 20 and 21 to certain specified Regulations;
- regulations 23 and 24 impose a duty on pilots and port authorities to report anomalies concerning ship arrivals and departures;
- regulation 25 provides for complaints about a ship to be made to the Secretary of State and regulation 26 makes provision as to the payment of any costs in connection with a refusal of access notice or detention of a ship;
- regulation 27 provides for offences and penalties for contraventions of these Regulations;
- regulation 28 and Schedule 4 set out the consequential amendments and revocations that need to be made to other Statutory Instruments in order to update cross-references to the Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Regulations 2011.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private, voluntary or public sector is foreseen.

An Explanatory Memorandum is published alongside the instrument on www.legislation.gov.uk.