

Mediterranean MoU**الأمانة العامة لرقابة دول البحر المتوسط على الموانئ
Mediterranean MoU On PSC Secretariat****Med MoU on PSC Circular regarding COVID-19 Pandemic***Alexandria in [6th of April 2020]****To: All Med MoU Member States***

In the current context of the outbreak of COVID-19; The Mediterranean Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control is keeps a close eye on the difficulties faced by member States and their Port State Control Officers with regards the implementation of port state control obligations.

And, in light of the attendant lockdown during this pandemic; the Med MoU on PSC Secretariat has also received several communications from numerous interested parties regarding the extensions of validity of the ships' certificates, seafarers' certificates and extensions of the seafarers' service periods onboard.

Recalling the circulars issued by the IMO which encourage Port State control Authorities to take a pragmatic and practical approach in relation to these certificates and endorsement extensions to avoid unduly detaining or delaying ships. The Circulars also seek to safeguard and protect our Port State Control Officers and the Seafarers on board the ships. The Med MoU on PSC is issuing this Circular to encourage Med MoU member states to take immediate and pragmatic action with regards to the extensions of validity of the ship's certificates, seafarers' certificates including medical certificates and extensions of service period onboard.

In the same context and in line with the suggested immediate and pragmatic actions, the Med MoU on PSC Secretariat is announcing the reduction of the annual total number of inspections corresponding to 7% instead of 15% of the estimated number of individual foreign ships which entered the ports of a member State during the year 2020.

This circular should not contradict any of the National Procedures currently implemented by any member State and the Circular will be updated, as appropriate, to remain in line with the developments of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

All Med MoU member States are kindly requested to communicate any information on the measures adopted by its maritime Authorities with regards to Port State Control, to the Secretariat of the Med MoU on PSC.
