



ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

CIRCULAR N° GEN 016

INTERNATIONAL VOYAGES AND MANDATORY IMO CONVENTIONS

TO: RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS (RO), FLAG STATE INSPECTORS, SHIP OWNERS, SHIPS' OPERATORS MANAGERS AND MASTERS

APPLICABLE TO: ALL SHIPS REGARDLESS THEIR SIZE OR TONNAGE

EFFECTIVE AS FROM: Date of this Circular

4th June 2014

It has been noticed by this Administration that some Owners/Managers believe that if the vessel is not engaged on international voyage, it is automatically not subject to certain IMO Conventions or part of them.

Indeed, a certain number of St Vincent and the Grenadines vessels are engaged in voyages within territorial waters of other States.

There are also St Vincent and the Grenadines vessels which operate from the port of other State to offshore vessels or installations thus leaving territorial waters of that State, without calling to the port of another State, and return to the same or another port of the same State.

In both cases the vessels are considered to be engaged in international voyages and this Administration requires compliance with the applicable IMO Conventions in order to ensure a satisfactory level of safety and environment protection as well as to prevent problems with Port State Control.

Bearing in mind the above, for the purpose of implementation of mandatory IMO Conventions, unless expressly provided otherwise by this Administration, an "International voyage" means a voyage to or from a port, shipyard, or offshore terminal under the jurisdiction of another State.

A voyage which is not an "International voyage" is a "National voyage". Unless expressly provided otherwise by this Administration, a "National voyage" means a voyage performed by a vessel flying St Vincent and the Grenadines Flag exclusively within St Vincent and the Grenadines waters. However, if a vessel is trading exclusively in one country's national waters, this country's national regulation may apply. An administrative authorization should be granted by the said country. Statutory Certificates may be issued by the said country under their own regulations but with this Administration's authorization.

The Recognized Organizations (RO), Flag State Inspectors, Ship Owners, Ships' Operators, Managers and Masters are requested to take note of the above.