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09.07.2021

Sirküler No: 741

Sayın Üyemiz,

Uluslararası Deniz Ticaret Odası'ndan (International Chamber of Shipping - ICS) alınan 05.07.2021 tarihli Ek'te sunulan yazıda, ICS Çin İrtibat Bürosu tarafından Haziran 2021 raporunun hazırlandığı bilgisi verilmektedir.

Söz konusu raporda; sicile kayıtlı Çinli gemi insanı sayısındaki artış, 2021 Çin Denizcilik Günü'ne yönelik yapılan hazırlıklar, 1 Eylül 2021 tarihi itibariyle yürürlüğe girecek olan Yeni Revize Edilen Deniz Trafiği Emniyeti Kanunu (The Newly Revised Maritime Traffic Safety Law), Çin'de deniz taşımacılığına ilişkin maliyetlerin azaltılması, 31 Ekim - 6 Kasım 2021 tarihleri arasında gerceklestirilecek Hong Kong Denizcilik Haftası, yakıt ve kumanya hizmeti sağlayan gemilere ilişkin karantina kısıtlamalarının hafifletilmesi ve gemilerden kaynaklanan yerel kirlilik gibi hususlara değinildiği ifade edilmektedir.

Konuya ilişkin detaylı bilgi Ek'te sunulmaktadır.

Bilgilerinize arz/rica ederim.

Saygılarımla,

İsmet SALİHOĞLU Genel Sekreter

Ek:ICS'ten alınan 05.07.2021 tarihli yazı ve Eki. (7 sayfa)

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- S.S. Gemi Armatörleri Motorlu Taşıyıcılar Kooperatifi
- GİSBİR (Türkiye Gemi İnşa Sanayicileri Birliği
- Derneği)
- VDAD (Vapur Donatanları ve Acenteleri Derneği)
- -TÜRKLİM (Türkiye Liman İsletmecileri Derneği)
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5 July 2021

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### TO: ALL FULL AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

### Copy: SHIPPING POLICY COMMITTEE

### **CHINA DEVELOPMENTS - JUNE 2021**

# Action required: To note the attached monthly report from the ICS (China) Liaison Office.

Attached at **Annex A**, please find the monthly report prepared by the ICS (China) Liaison Office for June 2021.

Georgia Spencer-Rowland Policy Adviser



### International Chamber of Shipping (China) Liaison Office 國際航運公會中國辦事處

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### ICS (China) Liaison Office Monthly Report

June 2021

<u>Note:</u> From January 2020, the ICS (China) Liaison Office (the "**Office**") is dedicated to issue report to ICS members on a monthly basis. The Office hopes through regular written reports to update ICS members of significant developments within the PRC that might affect or be of relevance to international ship operators, and the works done by the Office. This is the 19<sup>th</sup> report for June 2021.

### 1. Chinese registered seafarers exceed 1.7 million

On the occasion of the 11<sup>th</sup> Day of Seafarers, the PRC Ministry of Transport (the "MoT") issued the "Chinese Seafarers Development Report 2020" (referred hereto as the "Report"). According to the Report, as of the end of 2020, there were more than 1.716 million registered seafarers in China, an increase of 3.5% year-on-year, of which 808,000 were sea-going seafarers and 908,000 were inland seafarers, an increase of 3% and 3.9% year-on year respectively. Affected by Covid-19 pandemic, the figure of seafarers development has fluctuated compared with the past years.

In 2020, the MoT has further promoted the reform of crew training, examination and certification management, continued to improve the professional skills and overall quality of seafarers, and promoted shipping companies to give full pay to the main responsibility of crew training and actively carried out onboard training. There were more than 19,000 students enrolled for the national maritime majors throughout the year, 5,406 examinations with 260,000 seafarers were conducted, and 145,700 seafarers qualification certificates and 156,000 training certificates were issued in total.

The MoT has strictly implemented the requirements of the Central Authority on the prevention and control of the Covid-19 pandemic, promoted the resumption of work and production in the shipping industry in an orderly manner, improved crew service capabilities, improved crew management regulations, strengthened construction of high-quality seafarers, and ensured smooth shipping and logistics supply chains. During the pandemic, the MoT promoted the solution of problem with crew change. From 1 April to 31 December 2020, totalling 147,000 Chinese seafarers completed changes in Chinese ports.

### 2. The State Council Information Office introduces the development of water transport field and the progress of the preparations for the 2021 China Maritime Day

On 24 June 2021, the State Council Information Office held a press conference on the development of water transport and the preparations for 2021 China Maritime Day

According to Cao Desheng, Director General of China MSA, by the end of 2020, China has a total of 1.716 million seafarers, which is nearly 1.72 million, a year-on-year increase of 3.5%. It should be said that China's seafarers are currently the largest in the world, and China is a veritable seafarers nation.

Cao Desheng said that China currently has more than 258,000 female crew members, which is also at the forefront of the world. There were 808,000 registered sea-going seafarers, a year-on-year increase of 3%, and 908,000 registered inland seafarers, a year-on-year increase of 3.9%. In 2020, more than 122,000 Chinese crew members were dispatched to other countries in the world for employment. This is also a new breakthrough in history.

So far, the construction of the seafarers training base in western China supported by the MoT has solved the employment problem of more than a thousand people. Training seafarers in the western China is also a concrete measure to fight poverty. More than 180 batches of seafarers from poverty-stricken areas were trained, and more than 20000 seafarers were trained.

In addition, the MoT and China MSA also announced that on 11 July, the China Maritime Day will be held in Kunming City, Yunnan Province, the hometown of the great navigator Zheng He. On the same day, the Announcement of China Maritime Day 2021 will also be issued. In addition, ships owned and operated by Chinese shipping companies will be fully flagged, and the horns will be sounded for one minute at 9 o'clock.

Mr. Zhao Chongjiu, Vice Minister of MoT introduced that at present, China has become a major water transport country with important influence in the world, and is steadily embarking on a new journey of speeding up the construction of a powerful transportation country. In 2020, the national port cargo throughput was 14.55 billion tons, the port container throughput was 260 million TEUs, and the port cargo throughput and container throughput were ranked first in the word. As of the end of 2020, China's shipping fleet has a capacity of 310 million DWT, ranking the second in the world; China's inland waterway mileage exceeded 120,000 kilometers, ranking the first in the world; a total of 9 fully automated container terminals have been built, and 9 are under construction.

As regards the next steps, the MoT will further accelerate the construction of a powerful country in transportation, promote the quality, efficiency and power reforms of water transportation development, focus on making up for shortcomings, turn green energy, and provide excellent services, promote high-quality development of water transportation.

As to 2021 China Maritime Day Forum, it is scheduled to hold 1 main forum, 6 sub-forums, and 1 mass cultural event. The Forum will invite more than 600 guests from the national transportation authorities, ports, shipping and logistics companies, industry experts and scholars to attend; the sub-forums include China International Seafarers Forum, the Forum on Collaborative Management and Development of River Basins and Seas, the Forum on High-Quality Development of Inland Shipping, the Forum on the Development of Port Enterprises, the China International Ship Technology and Safety Forum, and the Maritime Culture Forum.

### 3. ICS to participate in 2021 China International Seafarer Forum

China Maritime Day Forum is a national-level main event of China Maritime Day, which is the only national festival in the maritime field in China.

China International Seafarer Forum, as one of the important thematic forums of the China Maritime Day Forum, will be held in Kunming City, Yunnan Province on 10 July 2021.

The forum will be sponsored by China Institute of Navigation, Kunming Municipal People's Government, China Waterborne Transport Research Institute, and China Communications Construction Group. The forum is hosted by China Maritime Service Center, directed by China MSA and the Chinese Seaman & Construction Workers' Union.

With the high attention and extensive participation of the industry, the China International Seafarer Forum has been successfully held for seven sessions and has gradually become a "major policy release platform, information-sharing platform, and high-level think-tank platform" of the industry. The professional, authoritative, contemporary and international brand image has been widely recognised by the international community.

The theme of the China International Seafarer Forum 2021 is "Optimizing the development Environment for Seafarers, Building up the core strength of shipping". The forum will focus on key and focal points, and difficult issues in development and cultivation of seafarers. The forum will also conduct in-depth discussions on strategic planning, policy innovation, seafarers' rights protection, talent training, labour's supply and demand forecasting etc.

In appreciation to ICS's great efforts taken to help seafarers since the outbreak of Covid-19, Mr. Guy Platten has been invited by China MSA to attend the forum and deliver a keynote speech on behalf of the ICS. The other two keynote speeches will be given by the Director-General of China MSA and the Director General of the Maritime and Ports Authority of Singapore. In his speech, Mr. Platten will highlight the works done by the ICS to take lead the global shipping industry in tackling Covid-19. In addition, Mr Platten will also address our post-Covid plan for protecting seafarers' wellbeing.

The Principal Representative and a few other colleagues of the ICS have also been invited to attend the forum virtually.

## 4. The Newly Revised Maritime Traffic Safety Law will come into effect on 1 September 2021

As reported previously in the 14<sup>th</sup> monthly report, the PRC Maritime Traffic Safety Law (the "MTSL") has been amended. On 29 April 2021, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress approved the revised MTSL, which will come into effect on 1 September 2021.

Given its importance, Huatai Marine has issued a circular summarising the changes in brief. To access the circular please see here: https://www.xindemarinenews.com/en/regulations/2021/0628/30497.html.

#### 5. New measures ease shipping procedures, costs in China

The PRC National Immigration Administration issued 16 new measures to simplify work formalities and procedures to reduce the cost of shipping enterprises on 18 June 2021. All of the measures come into effect immediately.

Under the background of sustained growth in China's foreign trade, the new measures aim to serve major visionary development blueprints such as the Belt and Road Initiative and the construction of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

The targeted measures can benefit enterprises, reduce operating costs, help market entities get out of trouble and stimulate vitality.

From January to May this year, imports and exports of goods totaled RMB14.76 trillion (US\$2.29 trillion), up 28.2 percent year-on-year. The number of international cargo ships increased steadily, up 3.2 percent year-on-year. Cross-border freight cars and trains increased by 1.4 percent year-on-year, according to the General Administration of Customs.

Shipping enterprises can apply for an administrative license for border inspection in a city's port and use the license within a larger designated region, instead of applying for the license in every port they arrived at, according to the measures.

International vessels that plan to leave the country within 24 hours can go through entry and exit formalities at the same time, and ships from other countries no longer need border inspection formalities when moving among domestic ports in China.

Port and shipping enterprises can access customs clearance, and international vessels can do formalities for entering and leaving the port at any time. Besides, international vessels need to carry out online pre-declaration and pre-inspection and apply for a border inspection administrative license online.

These measures will save an average of 1.5 hours of berthing time for each ship with international voyages, further reduce the operating costs and improve production efficiency. Additionally, the facilitation arrangements for customs clearance will be expanded to cover more border ports and countries along the Belt and Road area to ensure unimpeded international logistics channels.

Fast border inspection and customs clearance have also been implemented for inbound and outbound vehicles, and immigration authorities would improve the traffic efficiency of vehicles and drivers by means of information filing, data exchange and reservation for inspection.

### 6. Hong Kong Maritime Week 2021 gets go ahead

Hong Kong has cautiously set a date for this year's much anticipated Hong Kong Maritime Week 31 October to 6 November 2021.

In a circular sent out to the industry 28 June, the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board issued an invitation to potential event organizers and attempting to steer them towards some of the leading topics occupying the shipping sector globally.

"Activities in different formats including online and hybrid versions are welcome to cater for the actual needs and interests of the industry and the community. Specifically, organizations are encouraged to adopt themes such as green shipping, decarbonisation, maritime technology and digitalization, which are forward-looking in nature and have the long-term bearing on the maritime industry. For better synergy among activities, especially those with similar topics, we are prepared to facilitate collaboration and coordination among organizers. You may visit **www.hkmw.hk** for reference of activities held in the past," the circular detailed.

By registering their event with the HKMPB organizers may benefit from its extensive promotional capabilities. Organizers are strongly recommended to register their event on or before 31 August

2021. Organizers may contact Vivian Tong at the Transport and Housing Bureau **viviantong@thb.gov.hk** or by telephone at 3509 8117.

#### 7. Hong Kong eases quarantine requirements on port calls of vessels re-provisioning only

Hong Kong's Marine Department has notified bunker suppliers, and other marine services to visiting cargo vessels, of a relaxing of quarantine restrictions first imposed in July 2020.

From 15 June 2021, crew of non-cargo goods vessels visiting Hong Kong for shipping services, including bunkering and provision supplies, will be exempt from the curbs, subject to conditions, the Marine Department told shipping firms in a letter.

Hong Kong's bunkering industry, which is among the world's top 10, was hit hard by the strict 14-day quarantine requirement imposed on crew of vessels calling for reasons other than to load or discharge cargo. Before the curbs, Hong Kong had typically supplied about 500,000 tonnes of bunkers each month.

#### 8. Vessels' responsibility for local emissions on the rise in Hong Kong

Due to the success in reducing total emissions from electricity generation and road vehicles in Hong Kong, pollution emitting vessels are contributing proportionately more to the problem of local pollution. This is one of the findings highlighted in the Hong Kong Government's Clean Air Plan for Hong Kong 2035, announced on 29 June 2021.

The reduction of SO2 emissions and respirable suspended particles from vessels has been significant between 2012 and 2019. There were 15,000 tonnes of SO2 emissions annually in 2012.

By 2019 this figure had dropped to around 2,000 tonnes. Meanwhile, the level of PM10 emissions dropped from around 2,000 tonnes to 990 tonnes in 2019.

Even so, by 2019 vessel emissions accounted for 28%, 35%, and 28% of the total local emissions of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and respirable suspended particulates respectively. Among them, ocean-going vessels are the major emission source as they account for 40-90% of the total vessel emissions in these three types of air pollutants, followed by local vessels and river trade vessels.

Commenting on the current position in the 2035 Plan the Hong Kong Government states: "We [the Government] have to continue to explore and implement various measures relentlessly to target at different types of vessels and act in concert with the national authorities on the marine control measures implemented in the Greater Bay Area waters."

Specific measures may include "examining ways to facilitate ocean-going vessels to use cleaner vessels such as LNG, and consider tightening fuel standards, air pollutant emission standards and other controls."

In this regard local power company CLP's floating storage and regasification unit for LNG, due to become operational in 2022, comes with a facility for ship-to-ship transfer to bunker barges. CLP would be keen to exploit the facility as the flow of larger volumes would lower overall costs. It appears that the only obstacle to this currently is a lack of facilitating legislation.

### 9. Keep updating the Chinese shipping community of the ICS events and international shipping developments

As continuous efforts in promoting the ICS' presence in China, the Office continues to publish press statements through the WeChat accounts of the Chinese shipping media.

(1) 3 June 2021: ICS welcomes Mission Innovation's "Mission For Shipping" and highlights potential funding partnership with 5 billion USD Maritime R&D Fund

Beyond Shipping: <u>https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/6EoSWxYGK4\_UqzyCLu\_Ug</u> Maritime China: <u>https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/KvSsTyE40nQ5acCD-Rbhew</u>

(2) 10 June 2021: Stagnation in R&D investment creating unacceptable risk for industry zero emissions future

Beyond Shipping: <u>https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/kfbxIrli3sSEHInJR-7mKg</u> Xinde Marine: <u>https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/0JqTcWhUjAHKvg2nq56lFw</u> China Shipping Gazette: <u>https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/WnDBgZ8-wSxAfVsf9D5-ZA</u> Maritime China: <u>https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/4yIprb5HGQIkBDeJrYNEsA</u>

(3) 11 June 2021: Shipping industry welcomes Nigeria's creation of "Deep Blue" to stamp out piracy in the Gulf of Guinea

Beyond Shipping: <u>https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/gzA2lyRxmi8OhocOoAnPsA</u> Xinde Marine: <u>https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/boavhu6jf67jHdCUA\_55zw</u>

(4) 16 June 2021: New Helicopter Operations Guide from ICS helps crews prepare for the unexpected

Beyond Shipping: <u>https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/pqYS\_yNcLMYtqUbDNT0Xeg</u> Xinde Marine: <u>https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/e\_-SvIYM00E8Iq2L7T0rNg</u> Maritime China: <u>https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/BG-E4Hfeq2zKzHbsoZx3OQ</u>

Best regards,

Edward Liu Principal Representative International Chamber of Shipping (China) Liaison Office