

LIBERIA'S RESPONSE

QUESTIONNAIRE ON INFORMATION ON PORT AND COASTAL STATE REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO PRIVATELY CONTRACTED ARMED SECURITY PERSONNEL ON BOARD SHIPS

(The present questionnaire should be read in conjunction with MSC.1/Circ.1408 on the Interim Recommendations for port and coastal States regarding the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the High Risk Area1).

1. Requirements regarding ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals when carrying firearms and/or security-related equipment and/or PCASP2.

1.1 Do you require specific notification from ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals? Answer: YES.

.1 If yes,

- What information do you require? Answer: Port State Control information as required by FAL Standard 2.2(i.e. "General Declaration"-IMO FAL Form 1).

- When do you require it? Answer: Two weeks prior to arrival.

- To whom is it required to be sent? Answer: Liberia Maritime Authority.

Note: FAL Standard 2.2, establishes the principle that the "General Declaration" (IMO FAL Form 1) shall be the document providing data required by public authorities relating to the ship.

1.2 Do you require information regarding flag State authorization for use of PCASP and/or the firearms and/or the security-related equipment for use by the PCASP from ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals?

Answer: No. As Liberia does not permit arms on-board vessels entering its territorial waters, this is not required. Liberia, as a post-conflict nation, is under arms embargo by the United Nations Security Council (See attached UN S/RES/788(1992)).

.1 If yes,

- What information do you require?

- When do you require it?

- To whom is it required to be sent?

Note: MSC.1/Circ.1406/Rev.1 establishes the principle that "Flag States should have in place a policy on whether or not the use of PCASP will be authorized and, if so, under which conditions." This policy "may include a process for authorizing the use of PCASP which have been found to meet minimum requirements for ships flying its flag."

Liberia's Note: While Liberia does not permit PCASP aboard vessels calling in its territorial waters for obvious reasons as stated in the attached US S/RES/788 (1992), Liberia permits PCASP aboard its flagged vessels passing through HRA(see attached Guidelines to that effect).

Definitions

1. High Risk Area: an area as defined in the Best Management Practices for Protection against Somalia Based Piracy (MSC.1/Circ.1339) unless otherwise defined by the flag State.

2. All references to firearms include the associated ammunition, consumables, spare parts and maintenance equipment for use by PCASP, and all references to security-related equipment includes protective and communication equipment for use by PCASP.

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1.3 Do you require specific notification regarding firearms for use by the PCASP carried on board ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals?

Answer: No. Same as 1.2 above.

.1 If yes,

- What information do you require?

- When do you require it?

- To whom is it required to be sent?

Note: FAL Standard 2.4 establishes the principle that the "Ship's Stores Declaration" (IMO FAL Form 3) shall be the document providing data required by public authorities.

1.4 Do you require specific notification regarding security-related equipment for use by the PCASP carried on board ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals? Answer: No. Same as 1.2 above.

.1 If yes,

- What information do you require?

- When do you require it?

- To whom is it required to be sent?

Note: FAL Standard 2.4, establishes the principle that the "Ship's Stores Declaration" (IMO FAL Form 3) shall be the document providing data required by public authorities.

1.5 Do you require specific notification regarding PCASP carried on board ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals? Answer: No. Same as 1.2 above.

.1 If yes,

- What information do you require?
- When do you require it?
- To whom is it required to be sent?

Note: FAL Standard 2.6 establishes the principle that the "Crew List" (FAL Form 5) shall be the document providing data required by public authorities.

1.6 What requirements, if any, do you have in place for ships carrying firearms and/or the security-related equipment for use by the PCASP or PCASP when transiting through your territorial seas and/or contiguous zones before arrival in or after departure from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals? Answer: Strict embargo on arms aboard vessels entering our territorial waters as required by UN Security Council Resolution 788(1992) attached hereto.

2. Requirements regarding ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals for the purpose of embarking or disembarking firearms and/or security-related equipment and/or PCASP.

2.1 Do you allow the embarkation or disembarkation of firearms and/or the security-related equipment for use by the PCASP or of PCASP in your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals or elsewhere in your territorial sea(s)? Answer: No. Same as 1.2 above.

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.1 If yes,

- What information do you require?
- When do you require it?
- To whom is it required to be sent?

2.2 Do you require information regarding flag State authorization for use of PCASP and/or the firearms and/or the security-related equipment for use by the PCASP from ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports for the purpose of embarking or disembarking firearms and/or the security-related equipment for use by the PCASP or PCASP? Answer: No. Same as 1.2 above.

.1 If yes,

- What information do you require?
- When do you require it?
- To whom is it required to be sent?

Note: MSC.1/Circ.1406/Rev.1 establishes the principle that "Flag States should have in place a policy on whether or not the use of PCASP will be authorized and, if so, under which conditions." This policy "may include a process for authorizing the use of PCASP which have been found to meet minimum requirements for ships flying its flag."

2.3 What requirements, if any, do you have in place in connection with the import or arrival in and/or export or departure from your territory of firearms and/or security-related equipment for use by PCASP? Answer: Total arms embargo as per UN S/RES/788(1992) attached hereto.

2.4 What requirements, if any, do you have in place in connection with the storage, security or control of the firearms and/or security-related equipment for use by the PCASP prior to their embarkation or after their disembarkation? Answer: Total arms embargo as per UN S/RES/788(1992) attached hereto.

2.5 What requirements, if any, do you have in place in connection with the storage, security or control of the firearms and/or security-related equipment carried on board for use by the PCASP after their embarkation or prior to their disembarkation, when the ship is in your port, anchorage, roadstead or territorial waters? Answer: Total arms embargo as per UN S/RES/788(1992) attached hereto.

2.6 What requirements, if any, do you have in place for ships carrying firearms and/or the security-related equipment for use by the PCASP or of PCASP (which they have embarked your anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals) when transiting through your territorial seas and/or contiguous zones after departure from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals? Answer. Total arms embargo as per UN S/RES/788(1992).

3. Reporting of security-related incidents in territorial seas.

3.1 What do you consider to constitute a security incident in your territorial sea(s)? Answer: Acts of piracy, armed robbery and terroristic threats against vessels, boats, yacht, offshore rigs and persons on board.

3.2 Do you require information regarding security-related incidents occurring in your territorial sea(s)? Answer: Yes.

.1 If yes,

- What information do you require? Answer: Location, timing, individuals involve and mode of any incident related to those acts as stated in 3.1 above.

- When do you require it? Answer: Immediately (i.e. Real time)

- To whom is it required to be sent? Answer: Ministry of National Defence (MOD) via the Liberia National Coast Guard, and the Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA) through the Maritime Security Department.