

8th June 2014 <u>Marine Notice: 1/2014</u>

<u>To:</u> All Shipowners, Operators, Masters and Officers of Merchant Ships, Authorized Classification Societies and Surveyors.

Subject: Coming into Force of Safety Regulations for Non-Conventional Ships

This to inform you that a new law has been ratified and issued in the Kingdom of Bahrain approving safety regulations for small cargo ships that are not covered by international maritime treaties in GCC states.

1. Purpose of New Regulations:

The Safety Regulations for Ships not covered by the provisions of the Conventions of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), hereinafter called the Regulations, are intended to establish regional minimum safety standards for new and existing ships navigating in the GCC Countries Region.

2. Applicability:

- I. The present Regulations apply to new cargo ships, including barges, engaged in maritime navigation, whose length overall is 12 metres or over and for which the provisions of the Conventions listed in the regulations. They also apply to passenger ship whose length overall is 12 metres or over but less than 24 metres and carrying less than 200 passengers operating on domestic voyages or voyages between GCC Countries. Also apply to, local ,existing and new, sailing ships that are used or modified as passenger ships.
- II. The PMA may request compliance with any additional measures or requirements to the Regulations.



The Administration may continue to authorize the operation of an existing ship designed on standards lower than those set out in the present Regulations. However, such ships should at least satisfy those provisions which, in the opinion of the Administration, are considered necessary to ensure the safety of the ship and its crew during the voyage or voyages that it is expected to make.

Full copy of these regulation in both Arabic and English may be found on the Ministry of Transportation web-site: http://mot.gov.bh.