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Dakar on, 30/10/2019

Increased Customs fines in Senegal

Dear Sirs,

We refer to our previous circulars issued in relation with Customs lines in Senegal.

We would like to warn against reinforced Customs control as Authorities have recently taken the decision to follow up discharge operations of vessels carrying bagged or bulk cereals and other bulk cargo in order to sanction any substantial shortage or excess of cargo recorded by their own surveyor or by stevedores. A precautionary tally survey is therefore strongly recommended to ascertain the discharged quantity and defend ship's interests against disproportionate Customs fines.

Besides, please be informed that the Senegalese Customs have decided to become less tolerant and have taken a new stance on the level of fines which has significantly increased over the last weeks. For instance, very recently a fine of EUR 2 333 025 was imposed for mere mistakes on the declaration of cargo manifest and finally negotiated at EUR 304 898!!

We would therefore strongly recommend that your Members instruct their ship Masters calling Dakar port to:

- 1- Prepare their Dakar Custom's declarations prior berthing
- 2- Personally receive the Customs officers on board for formalities, in company with the ship agent.
- 3- Ensure that All consumables onboard, including bunkers, Lube oil and stores (food, chemicals, CO2, foam, extinguishers, paint, crew personal effects etc...) are accurately declared.
- 4- Properly declare the cargo manifest for Dakar (together with the cargo in transit if any)
- 5- Place all the Customs papers in a separate file to be counter-checked by the ship agent before their presentation to the Customs' boarding officer.

Please find below the list of items for which declaration is usually demanded by the Customs (with specification of quantities in Mt, litres, Kg...etc wherever applicable):

- 1. Paint inventory
- 2. Crew list
- 3. Cargo manifest (with goods in transit if any)
- 4. Bills of lading
- 5. Crew effects
- 6. Ports of call list
- 7. Bonded store
- 8. Food provisions
- 9. Chemicals
- 10. Fire extinguishers
- 11. Foam
- 12, CO2 (fixed and portable)
- 13. Bunker declaration
 - > Fuel-oil
 - > Diesel-oil
 - > Gas oil
- 14. Lube-oil declaration
 - Oil in tanks (including in sump tanks)
 - · Oil in drums
 - · Oil in cans
 - · Oil in use (in engines, cranes, winches, stern tube...etc)
 - Used oil (sludge)

NB:

The total quantity of bunkers and lube oil for each item must be confirmed by its corresponding detailed inventory. Any discrepancy between the declared quantity and the inventory will be sanctioned.

The declared quantity of bunkers and lube oil must also be identical to the actual quantity in the tanks on ship's berthing as the Customs usually request confirmation by sounding.

Besides, kindly note that the Customs declaration is irrevocable and the Master's good faith is not taken as an excuse. No additional declaration, correction or amendment is authorized, hence the need to carefully check the documents before submitting them to the Customs.

We remain at your disposal

Best regards

Ngague FAYE

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