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PANAMA CRUISE TERMINAL RECEIVED 2 VESSELS SIMULTANEOUSLY AFTER THE START OF THE CRUISE SEASON.

The Panama Cruise terminal received two ships simultaneously after the start of the 2022-2023 Cruise season that runs from October to May, one of them is the Viking Star of the Viking Cruises company, which arrived from Puerto Limon, Costa Rica with 844 passengers who disembarked in our country to go to their destinations while 689 boarded. The other ship is the Norwegian Encore with approximately 2,500 passengers who disembarked in our country to go on various excursions and then head towards Cartagena, Colombia.

Only in the Panama Cruise Terminal there are 52 reservations, of which 22 are from the Base Port (Home Port) those in which there is a rotation / change of passengers, embarkation and disem-



barkation and 30 in transit (Port of Call) those in which passengers disembark for tours, excursions and/or purchases and then return to the cruise.

The General Director of Ports and Auxiliary Maritime Industries of the Panama Maritime Authority in charge, Jonathan Guerini pointed out that "the work in the Cruise Terminal is at 91% of progress, with only the maritime area at 100% and we estimate that the work will be completely finished by mid-2023."

With the start of the cruise season, the economy is directly boosted by generating income and promoting new job opportunities in the regions that are visited, it also enhances the image of the country and strengthens our position in the maritime, port and logistics sector worldwide, one of the fundamental pillars of the Panamanian economy.



WE HELD AN ANNUAL MEETING WITH RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS AUTHORIZED FOR THE ISSUANCE OF STATUTORY CERTIFICATES AND THE PROVISION OF REGULATORY SERVICES.

The Panama Maritime Authority, through the General Directorate of Merchant Marine, held the annual meeting with the Recognized Organizations (ROs) and the Recognized Protection Organizations (OPRs), which are in charge of issuing statutory certificates and providing regulatory services to Panamanian-flagged ships in accordance with current national and international prescriptions, in order to guarantee faithful compliance with the safety of human life at sea, maritime and environmental protection on board the National Merchant Marine.

The annual meeting with the Recognized Organizations and Recognized Protection Organizations maintains as its main objective to work together to maintain and improve compliance of our merchant fleet, through the development of new technologies, the establishment of new control and supervision mechanisms of both Panamanian flagged, as well as the operating companies, in such a way that there are safer and more efficient ships.

This meeting was held personally as well as online.



It included the participation of regional and operation managers from the 31 ROs and OPRs that work with the Panamanian administration from different countries in America, Europe and Asia.

The General Director of the AMP Merchant Marine, Rafael Cigarruista, presented issues related to the Flag State, audits to Recognized Organizations, Port State, maritime accidents and incidents, measures related to the control and monitoring of the existing fleet, without forgetting to mention issues related to processes of due diligence and surveillance of the fleet.

He also highlighted the advances in technology of the Ship Registry, statistical data of value for the participants, on issues of fleet conformation, type of ships and division between newly built and existing ships.

The representatives of ABS and the company Bureau Veritas Marine & Offshore SAS presented topics related to Carbon Capture (CO2) on board a ship, use and storage, Statutory Certification processes to obtain the Energy Efficiency Index of Existing Ships (EEXI) and the Carbon Intensity Indicator (CII).

The Panamanian Administration continues its work of being vigilant of compliance with international standards, working hand in hand with the Recognized Organizations (ROs) to achieve its objective.

PANAMA MAKES PROGRESS IN THE RECOGNITION OF COMPETENCE TITLES OF PANAMAMNIAN SEAFARERS BEFORE THE EUROPEAN UNION.

The Panama Maritime Authority, through the General Directorate for Seafarers, delivered to the European High Commissioner for Transport, Adina Valean, a summary with the progress made by Panama for its recognition as the third country before the European Union, which would mark a milestone in Panamanian maritime history.

"Currently, 90% of the evidence of the actions carried out has been completed based on the results of the audit report conducted by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), for which the Panama Maritime Authority (AMP) is preparing the second group of evidence for the respective delivery to the General Directorate of Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) of the European Commission (EU)", indicated the General Director of Seafarers, Juan Maltez.

Panama is advancing in this process of its recognition, which is being verified before the European Commission, it is related to the



recognition of the qualifications of Panamanian seafarers by the Member States of the European Union, in accordance with Rule I/10 of the International Convention on Training Standards, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 1978, as amended (STCW'78 Convention, as amended) and Directive 2008/106/EC.

A favorable result after the verification process and the subsequent recognition by the EU, will be a great boost for Panamanian seafarers since they will be allowed to work on board European-flagged ships, in this way we will be able to export our human resources of quality, complying with high standards, guaranteeing safety at sea, their labor rights and the obligations that each position requires, in accordance with the regulations of international conventions.

These efforts made by the AMP demonstrate the commitment of the present administration to comply with the STCW'78 Agreement, as amended, and to promote job opportunities for our seafarers, thus demonstrating that Panama is focused on providing the international maritime industry, with cadets and officers with high-level professional training, competitive and at the forefront of technological requirements, which guarantee safe and reliable maritime transport.

On the other hand, the Panamanian delegation attended a follow-up meeting, post-signature of the Memorandum of Understanding, with the General Director of the Group and CEO of MSC Shipmanagement Ltd Cyprus

(subsidiary of the Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC)), Captain Prabhat Jha, who pointed out that the interview process for the selection of Panamanian seafarers who wish to board their ships will soon begin.

In the same way, the representatives of Panama met with the delegation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to discuss issues related to the progress of the future signing of the Agreement between the Panama Maritime Authority and the Ministry of Transport and Logistics Services of Saudi Arabia, concerning the mutual recognition of training and certification in accordance with Rule I/10 of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as Amended, (STCW'78 Convention), which would be of great benefit to Panamanian seafarers since it would provide them with new job opportunities.





REPUBLIC OF PANAMA
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