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# Press release

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PARIS MOU ANNOUNCED NEW TARGETING LISTS.

**At its 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting last month, the Paris MoU Committee approved the 2008 inspection results and adopted new performance lists for flag States and Recognized Organizations. These lists will take effect from 1 July 2009.**

The “Black List” for 2009 contains 21 flag States, two more than last year. The 2008 “White List” includes 41 flag States, three more than last year. A “hard core” of flag States remain on the “Black List”. Most of the flags that were considered “very high risk” in 2007 have retained this ranking. The poorest performing flags are still Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Bolivia and Albania. New on the “Black List” are Libya, Moldova and Dominica.

Flags with an average performance are shown on the “Grey List”. Their appearance on this list may act as an incentive to improve and move to the “White List”. At the same time flags at the lower end of the “Grey List” should be careful not to neglect control over their ships and risk ending up on the “Black List” next year.

Lithuania, Turkey and Japan moved up from “Grey” to “White”. Iran and the United States moved down from “White” to “Grey”.

The “White List” represents quality flags with a consistently low detention record. Bermuda (UK), France, and the United Kingdom are placed highest in terms of performance.

A flag’s ranking is taken into account when targeting ships for inspection and ships flying flags listed on the “Black list” are liable for banning from the region after multiple detentions.

The Paris MoU also agreed on the performance listing of Recognized Organizations (ROs). These organizations have been delegated with statutory responsibilities by flag States. This table uses the same method of calculation as the flag State table but counts only those detentions, which the Paris MoU considers to be directly related to a statutory survey carried out by the recognized organization.

Det Norske Veritas, Germanischer Lloyd and Registro Italiano Navale are the highest performing ROs (same order as on 2008 list). Register of Shipping (Albania), Korea Classification Society (Korea, DPR), Bulgarski Koraben Registar and International Register of Shipping (USA) have shown very low performance.

More information can be found in the 2008 Annual Report, which will be released in July 2009.

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Notes to editors:

Port State Control is a check on visiting foreign ships to see that they comply with international rules on safety, pollution prevention and seafarers living and working conditions. It is a means of enforcing compliance where the owner and flag State have failed in their responsibility to implement or ensure compliance. The port State can require defects to be put right, and detain the ship for this purpose if necessary. It is therefore also a port State's defence against visiting substandard shipping.

Regional Port State Control was initiated in 1982 when fourteen European countries agreed to co-ordinate their port State inspection effort under a voluntary agreement known as the Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (Paris MoU). Current membership includes 27 countries. The European Commission, although not a signatory to the Paris MoU, is also a member of the Committee.

Inspection reports are recorded on a central database SIRENaC located in St Malo - France, available for search and daily updating by MoU member countries. Inspection results can be viewed on the Paris MoU public website and are also provided to the Equasis public database.

The Secretariat of the MoU is provided by the Netherlands Ministry of Transport, Public works and Water Management and located in The Hague.

For more information on the Paris MoU on Port State Control please consult our Internet Website on the following address: [www.parismou.org](http://www.parismou.org)