

MINISTRY OF TOURISM, CIVIL AVIATION, PORTS & MARINE

Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration

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MARINE NOTICE

The Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration (SMSA) as the governmental body that ensures that Seychelles as a member state of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) adheres to all its international obligations, wishes to inform all ship owners and operators that as of 1st January 2020 the IMO will enforce a new 0.5% global Sulphur Cap on fuel content. This is part of the IMO's response to heightening environmental concerns, contributed in part by harmful emissions from ships.

The Sulphur Cap 2020 is part of the MARPOL Annex VI which is the International Convention for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships. MARPOL Annex VI has been approved by the National Assembly in April 2019 and is to come into force for Seychelles as a Member State after the depository to IMO.

On the day that MARPOL Annex VI comes into force, it will be a requirement that all ship owners and operators abide by the new IMO standard of 0.5% Sulphur content. This will apply to all sizes of ships.

The world's leading oil majors have not mentioned anything on a mass production of 0.5% blends, neither have they announced commitments to invest in reconfiguring their refineries to produce 0.5% fuels.

Therefore, if at any point there is a shortage in the required bunker fuel, ship owners and operators are advised to inform the Administration who would subsequently put the issue in front of the IMO.

Nevertheless, our local supplier SEYPEC is already adhering to the new mandatory standard and has in stock the required fuel for bunkering.

