B 2724

L.N. 242 of 2026

AUTHORITY FOR TRANSPORT IN MALTA ACT (CAP. 499)

Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Reporting Requirements (Amendment) Regulations, 2026

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by article 43 of the Authority for Transport in Malta Act, the Minister responsible for transport, after consultation with the Authority for Transport in Malta, has made the following regulations:-

Citation and commencement.

S.L. 499.34.

1. (1) The title of these regulations is the Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Reporting Requirements (Amendment) Regulations, 2026 and these regulations shall be read and construed as one with the Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Reporting Requirements Regulations hereinafter referred to as the "principal regulations".

(2) These regulations shall be deemed to have come into force on 19th November 2025.

Amends regulation 2 of the principal regulations.

2. Regulation 2 of the principal regulations shall be amended as follows:

(a) sub-regulation (1) thereof shall be amended as follows:

(i) sub-paragraph (ii) thereof shall be substituted by the following new sub-paragraph:

"(ii) implement the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2019/1239 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 establishing a European Maritime Single Window environment and repealing Directive 2010/65/EU;";

(ii) in sub-paragraph (iii) thereof the words "departing from ports of the Member States; and" shall be substituted by the words "departing from ports of the Member States;";

(iii) sub-paragraph (iv) thereof shall be substituted by the following new sub-paragraph:

"(iv) transpose the requirements of Directive

(EU) 2019/883 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2019 on port reception facilities for the delivery of waste from ships, amending Directive 2010/65/EU and repealing Directive 2000/59/EC;";

(iv) immediately after sub-paragraph (iv) thereof, as amended, there shall be added the following new sub-paragraphs:

"(v) transpose the requirements of the Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2025/811 of 19 February 2025 amending Annex I to Directive 2002/59/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards information to be notified to ship reporting systems;

(vi) implement the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2023/1805 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 September 2023 on the use of renewable and low-carbon fuels in maritime transport, and amending Directive 2009/16/EC.";

(b) sub-regulation (2) thereof shall be substituted by the following new sub-regulation:

"(2) These regulations shall be without prejudice to any other law or instrument that relates to the territorial waters and the contiguous zone, the provision of search and rescue and the response in cases of emergency and disaster situations.".

3. Regulation 4 of the principal regulations shall be amended as follows:

Amends regulation 4 of the principal regulations.

(a) immediately after the definition "dangerous goods", there shall be added the following new definition:

" "declarant" means any natural or legal person who shall be subject to reporting obligations, or any duly authorised natural or legal person acting on such person's behalf within the limits of the relevant reporting obligations;";

(b) immediately after the definition "the Minister" there shall be added the following new definition:

" "onshore power supply system" means the system

established to supply electricity to ships at berth for powering hotel and service workloads or charging secondary batteries;";

(c) immediately after the definition "owner" there shall be added the following new definition:

" "Regulation (EU) 2019/1239" means Regulation (EU) 2019/1239 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 establishing a European Maritime Single Window environment and repealing Directive 2010/65/EU;".

Amends regulation 5 of the principal regulations.

4. Immediately after sub-regulation (3) of regulation 5 of the principal regulations there shall be added the following new sub-regulation:

"(4) The Authority shall be responsible to respond and intervene in any polluting event.".

Amends regulation 6 of the principal regulations.

5. Regulation 6 of the principal regulations shall be amended as follows:

(a) sub-regulation (3) thereof shall be amended as follows:

(i) in paragraph (c) thereof the words "port of destination referred to in paragraph *(b)*; and" shall be substituted by the words "port of destination referred to in paragraph *(b)*;";

(ii) paragraph (d) thereof shall be substituted by the following new sub-paragraph:

"(*d*) the total number of persons on board the ship;";

(iii) immediately after paragraph (d) thereof, as substituted, there shall be added the following new paragraphs:

"(*e*) characteristics and estimated quantity of bunker's fuel;

(*f*) navigational status; and

(*g*) one or more insurance certificates issued by its provider and carried on board the ship,

providing evidence of existence of insurance for maritime claims in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2009/20/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the insurance of shipowners for maritime claims, as well as civil liability certificates issued in accordance with:

(i) the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1992, as amended (1992 Civil Liability Convention);

(ii) the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage, 2001 (2001 Bunkers Convention); and

(iii) the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007 (2007 Nairobi WRC).";

(b) immediately after sub-regulation (6) thereof, as amended, there shall be added the following new sub-regulations:

"(7) Any ship intending to connect with the onshore power supply system or intending to use a zero-emission technology shall notify the Authority with this intention at least forty-eight (48) hours before the arrival of such ship.

(8) Ships intending to connect with the onshore power supply system shall indicate the amount of power expected to be required throughout their port call. The Authority shall confirm the call and whether connection with the onshore power supply system is available. Additionally, the Authority shall advise the ship the information and documentation that is to be submitted, the procedure to be followed, the applicable terms and conditions and the applicable tariff and other charges.".

6. Regulation 18 of the principal regulations shall be substituted by the following new regulation:

Substitutes regulation 18 of the principal regulations.

"18. (1) A maritime information management system shall be established to process the information referred to in these regulations and in the Union legal acts referred to in regulation 2.

(2) This maritime information management system shall work as a Maritime National Single Window in compliance with

the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2019/1239. The fulfilment of all reporting formalities shall take place in electronic format and transmitted via the Maritime National Single Window.

(3) The Maritime National Single Window shall be the place where all information is reported only once per port call and made available to the various national authorities.

(4) The declarant shall be responsible for all the information submitted and for ensuring the submission of all the data elements in compliance with the applicable legal and technical requirements established under Regulation (EU) 2019/1239 and its national implementing legislation. Furthermore, the declarant shall remain responsible for the data and for updating any information that has changed after its initial submission in the Maritime National Single Window.

(5) The information and the applicable data that is to be submitted by the declarant in the Maritime National Single Window shall be that:

(*a*) listed in Regulation (EU) 2019/1239 as follows:

(i) reporting obligations stemming from the listed legal acts of the Union and in accordance with the mentioned provisions;

(ii) FAL Convention documents and reporting obligations stemming from international legal instruments and the applicable forms:

Provided that without prejudice to the relevant format established in the FAL Convention, the electronic format shall comply with the provisions of this regulation; and

(iii) reporting obligations stemming from national legislation and requirements, as established by the Authority from time to time;

(*b*) stemming from any other legal acts of the Union or from international legal instruments establishing reporting obligations through the Maritime National Single Window.

(6) Where reporting formalities are required by an applicable legal act of the Union, international legal instruments and national legislation in force from time to time and to the

extent necessary for the good functioning of the Maritime National Single Window, the maritime information management system shall be compatible, connectable and interoperable with the SafeSeaNet system adopted by the Commission, or any other system so adopted, and where applicable, through collaboration and cooperation from and with the relevant national authorities, with other computer systems.

(7) The Authority shall cooperate with other competent authorities of other Member States to ensure the interconnection and interoperability of their respective systems and to develop and update SafeSeaNet or any other computer system.

(8) The maritime information management system shall:

(*a*) ensure that the data exchange is electronic and enable messages notified in accordance with regulation 6(6**)** to be received and processed;

(*b*) allow information to be transmitted twenty four hours (24) hours a day; and

(*c*) upon request, through SafeSeaNet, or any other system, and if needed for the purpose of maritime safety or security or the protection of the maritime environment, is able to send information regarding the ship and the dangerous or polluting goods on board to the national and local competent authorities of another Member State without delay.

(9) Furthermore it shall be ensured that:

(*a*) the information received in accordance with the reporting formalities provided in applicable legal acts of the Union, international legal instruments and national legislation in force from time to time is made available in the maritime information system and shall make the relevant parts of such information available to other Member States through such system; and

(*b*) the information received through the maritime information system is available upon request to the relevant national authorities.".

Amends regulation 20 of the principal regulations.

7. Sub-regulation (2) of regulation 20 of the principal regulations shall be amended as follows:

(a) paragraph (b) thereof shall be substituted by the

following new paragraph:

"(*b*) the Chairperson of the Authority;";

(b) paragraph (g) thereof shall be substituted by the following new paragraph:

"(*g*) the Chairperson of the Environment and Resources Authority.".

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