

NOTICE TO MARINERS

No. 05 – 08th March 2023

Sub: UAE issues circular on discharging of grey water from cruise ships

To: Cruise ships owners and managers, Cruise ships masters and Shipping Agents

The UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure has issued Ministerial Resolution No. (36) of 2023, for regulating the discharge of grey water from cruise ships, defined as below:

Grey water: The water that is being discharged from the sinks, washing machines, bathtubs, and dishwashers and does not include sewage.

Cruise ships: Ships certified to carry more than 100 persons and equipped with overnight accommodations.

All Cruise ships as defined above are required to abide with the Ministerial resolution as detailed below:

1. It is prohibited to discharge the grey water into the internal waters of the State and the ports, marinas, canyons, straits, water channels and natural or artificial bays contained therein.
2. The discharge of grey water into the marine environment of the State Including the EEZ shall meet the following conditions:
 - a. The Cruise ship shall discharge the treated grey water while sailing in its navigational line at a speed of not less than 6 knots and at not less than 4 nautical miles from the nearest shore land, populated area, aquatic development facility and marine reserve in the waters of the State.
 - b. In the case of discharge of the untreated grey water into the UAE marine environment, the cruise ship shall discharge untreated grey water while sailing in its navigational line at a speed of not less than 6 knots and at not less than 12 nautical miles from the nearest shore land, populated area, aquaculture development facility or marine reserve in the waters of the State.
 - c. Discharged Grey water should not form visible marks or streaks of gloss on the surface of the seawater.
3. The competent local authorities in each emirate shall provide the necessary reception facilities at the ports and marinas for receiving grey water from Cruises ships.

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Status of previously published notices:

2020: 01

2021: 01, 11, 14, 20, 21

2022: 01, 02, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08

2023: 01, 04