

Maritime Transport Sector Marine Permits Department Date: 09/01/2012

Dear Sirs,

Kindly be informed that on 28/11/2011, we received correspondence from the General Secretariat of the Ministry of Defense No. 10/3/24/2 C53 dated 21/11/2011, and also correspondence from the Marine Operations Department dated 3/12/2011 regarding the necessity to comply with the following:

1. The Egyptian Government bans the existence of any weapons/security teams on board any commercial vessels as per the laws and regulations with that regard issued by the International Maritime Organization.
2. In case commercial vessels calling the Egyptian ports have weapons onboard: Vessel Master shall keep the weapons under lock and shall issue a certificate to that effect to be submitted to the pilot in the pilotstation. The certificate is to include an undertaking by the Master to hand in the weapons in a locked box to the Port Police immediately upon mooring. The box shall be carefully checked by the Port Police and will be handed back to the Master upon vessel departure.
3. In case of non-compliance, vessel shall not be permitted to enter harbor with weapons onboard.
4. As for vessels transiting the Suez Canal: Civil Police elements (Port Security) shall receive the weapons from vessels to transit the Suez Canal at the entry point and shall transport them by land, and then hand them back to vessel crew at clearance point.
5. In case weapons are deployed onboard a vessel while in the Egyptian territorial waters, while berthed at port, while being at anchorage whether inner or outer roads, or while transiting the Suez Canal, vessel's Master and crew shall be held accountable pursuant to the Egyptian Law, including detaining vessel, Master, and persons carrying the weapons without permits who shall be liable under Law No. 394 and its amendments regarding weapon and ammunition possession without permits. They shall be interrogated by the competent persecution authority after a seizure report is issued.

Kindly comply with the instructions mandated by the Ministry of Defense with due diligence and communicate them to the maritime transport companies you serve as agents, as well as to ship masters of vessels calling the Egyptian ports.