

Republic of the Marshall Islands

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

11495 COMMERCE PARK DRIVE, RESTON, VIRGINIA 20191-1506
TELEPHONE: +1-703-620-4880 FAX: +1-703-476-8522
EMAIL: maritime@register-iri.com WEBSITE: www.register-iri.com

MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY No. 19-18

To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Nautical Inspectors, Recognized Organizations

Subject: UNLAWFUL SHIP-TO-SHIP TRANSFERS WITH DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA (DPRK) – FLAGGED VESSELS

Date: 27 June 2018 (renewed 27 June 2023)

The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) has been made aware that vessels operating in the area surrounding the Korea peninsula, in the East China Sea, or in the Gulf of Tonkin may be at a heightened risk for unlawful ship-to-ship transfers with Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (“DPRK”)-flagged vessels.

Ship-to-ship transfers to or from DPRK-flagged vessels of any cargo that is being transported to or from the DPRK is a violation of United Nations Security Council (“UNSC”) [Resolution 2375 \(2017\)](#). This resolution, which in part extends [UNSC Resolution 1718 \(2006\)](#), requires all Member States to prohibit vessels flying their flag from facilitating or engaging in ship-to-ship transfers to or from DPRK-flagged vessels of any goods or items that are being supplied, sold, or transferred to or from the DPRK.

A list of known DPRK-operated tankers and deceptive shipping practices used by the DPRK are contained in a [North Korea Sanctions Advisory \(March 21, 2019\)](#) issued by United States Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (“OFAC”).

The Administrator requests that this Marine Safety Advisory is brought to the immediate attention of vessel crews and all other persons with responsibility for vessel operations under the RMI flag.

This MSA is evaluated annually by the Administrator and expires one year after its issuance or renewal unless otherwise noted, superseded, or revoked.