

Dear Captain

Welcome to Greenland waters

I would like to welcome you and your ship and everyone on board to Greenland waters. I would like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to some of the special conditions you will encounter.

The approximately 2 million square kilometres of sea territory present challenges not found in more southerly waters. The very limited source of updated surveys and charts in this vast area, together with other factors such as ice, cold and extreme weather conditions, and not least the extreme remoteness of the area, are all risk factors that should be taken into serious consideration when planning the voyage to these waters.

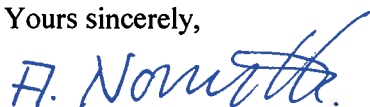
The Danish Maritime Authority has therefore issued order no. 417 of 28 May 2009 on technical regulation on safety of navigation in Greenland territorial waters. The order includes regulation on the availability of a navigator with the necessary local knowledge, open lifeboats, navigation in poorly surveyed areas, navigation in ice and near icebergs, safety management issues and more. The order which applies to larger ships is enclosed. Furthermore, I encourage you to take into consideration the IMO recommendations found in *A.1024(26) Guidelines for ships operating in polar waters*.

As mentioned above, Greenland waters are characterised by extreme remoteness. This means that help and assistance in case of an accident or an emergency will, as a rule, be far away – if available at all. Therefore, I strongly recommend that you consider whether it is possible to plan and execute your voyage in relative proximity to other ships, and in all cases take duly note of the IMO recommendations found in *MSC.1/Circ.1184 Enhanced contingency planning guidance for passenger ships operating in areas remote from SAR facilities*.

Enclosed you will find useful information related to the above issues. Please study the material and do not hesitate to contact the Danish Maritime Authority in case you have doubts or any questions.

I wish you a safe and successful voyage.

Yours sincerely,



Andreas Nordseth

4 enclosures

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