

## PRESS RELEASE

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## Gibraltar Improves its Position on the Paris MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) White List

The Paris MOU White List for 2010 has been released following approval by the Paris MOU Committee.

The list is used by Port State Control Officers to target vessels for inspections, with those vessels on the black list being targeted for more frequent and in depth inspections. Vessels listed on the "Black list" are liable for banning from the region after multiple detentions.

The Gibraltar fleet is predominantly operated within the Paris MOU area and is therefore subject to a higher level of inspections than other flags where the majority of the fleet operates outside this area. Notwithstanding the number of inspections increasing, the number of vessels detained dropped which helped in this improvement.

This list is in three parts, black, grey and white. Gibraltar has been on the white list for some years now and has improved its position, moving from 23 to 20 on the list in 2010.

The Hon Joe Holliday, Minister for Maritime Affairs said:

"This steady improvement up the white list reflects the drive to improve the quality of the Gibraltar registered fleet. While there have been some challenges with the economic downturn in the international shipping markets the Gibraltar fleet continues, not only to grow, but also improve in quality."