

GLOBALPANDI

Circular for P&I Clubs

DATE: 7th SEPTEMBER 2018

Correspondents for:

Britannia, British Marine, Carina, Charterers P&I Club, China P&I Club, GARD, ITIC, Korea P&I Club, Navigators, Nordisk Defence Club (Through Sabatino Pizzolante), Lodestar Marine, North of England P&I Club, MS Amlin, Shipowners P&I Club, Skuld, The Standard P&I Club, Steamship Mutual, The American Club, The London P&I Club, West of England and Through Transport Club (TTC)

Critical rise of the Caroní River (Orinoco) at Venezuela

In the same spirit of our Circular dated 4th August 2017, there is again a developing situation at the Caroní River in Venezuela which is affecting vessel operations, particularly, at the Ferrominera Terminal (FMO).

Likewise happened last year, due the rainy season the river level rose to a high level, but this time reaching a record water level of 13.26 meters, surpassing and actually covering the berth at Ferrominera Terminal, causing the stoppage of operations in the last days, mainly due problems of electricity supply to the ship loader.

The Caroní is one of the rivers with the highest discharge rates in the world, with respect to the area of its basin with an average maximum discharge is 6,260 cubic metres per second (221,000 cu ft/s), the Caroni supplies 15.5 percent of the discharge of the Orinoco river. The Ferrominera terminal is located in Puerto Ordaz near the confluence of both rivers but still inside the Caroni, reason why is being directly affected by this problem. The terminal as such has not been closed, but operations are stopped due to safety reasons; the aquatic authority (INEA), however, has not issued a formal notice to mariners.

Therefore, Members whose vessels are calling shortly or already trading in the Orinoco River, are suggested to keep in close contact with ship agents and Correspondents, in order to get updated reports about the situation.

In the meantime, we will continue monitoring the matter and revert as it might be needed.

Should you need any assistance or further information regarding the topic stated above, please feel free to contact:

GLOBALPANDI, S.A.

Phones & Fax: +58-242-3618159/3614453

+58-412-4210545/4210546

E-mail: mail@globalpandi.com

Webpage: www.globalpandi.com

AOH:

Mr. José Alfredo Sabatino Pizzolante / +58-412-4210036

Mr. Oswaldo Guerreiro / +58-412-4445715

Ms. Geraldine Orozco / +58-412-4300480