



Luxembourg, 28 September 2020

Press release

On 26 September 2019, the Luxembourg-registered vessel *Bourbon Rhode* with 14 persons on board sank in the Atlantic Ocean during a transit voyage from Las Palmas to Guyana near the position 16°05.3' N / 039°43.9' W (approximately 1600 km west of Cape Verde). Three survivors and the bodies of four deceased crew members were recovered during the search and rescue operations. Seven crew members are reported missing. In accordance with prevailing provisions, the Administration of Technical Investigations (AET) opened a safety investigation after having been informed of the loss of the *Bourbon Rhode* in the evening of 28 September 2019.

A final report should be published within twelve month of the date of the casualty¹. Due to the complexity of the investigation and the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic, the AET has decided to publish an interim fact-based report by the end of 2020.

The ongoing investigation highlighted a safety issue that required an immediate safety action. On 19 August 2020, the AET issued a safety recommendation² to the Luxembourg Maritime Administration.

At the same time, a safety bulletin³ on the identified issue has been published and disseminated to other interested parties and maritime stakeholders.

The safety investigation will be concluded with the publication of a final report in the course of 2021.

¹ [Directive 2009/18/EC](#), Article 14, Paragraph 2

² <https://aet.gouvernement.lu/dam-assets/l-administration/transports-maritimes/bourbonrhode/Bourbon-Rhode-SR1-final-2020-08-19.pdf>

³ <https://aet.gouvernement.lu/dam-assets/l-administration/transports-maritimes/bourbonrhode/Bourbon-Rhode-SB1-final-2020-08-19.pdf>