

# Directive on safe loading and unloading

<b>Official reference</b>	Directive 2001/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 December 2001 establishing harmonised requirements and procedures for the safe loading and unloading of bulk carriers	
<b>Relevant dates</b>	Document	4/12/2001
	Publication	16/01/2002
	Entry into force	5/02/2002
	Implementation by Belgium	19/03/2004
	Implementation by Flanders	17/03/2006
	Implementation deadline	4/08/2003
<b>Policy level</b>	European	
<b>Type of instrument</b>	Directive	
<b>Geographical reach</b>	EU Member States	
<b>(Legal) coverage in the BNS</b>	(Port zones)	
<b>European contact point</b>	Directorate-General Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE)	
<b>Transposition on the federal level</b>	Koninklijk besluit van 19 maart 2004 tot wijziging van het koninklijk besluit van 20 juli 1973 houdende zeevaartinspectiereglement	
<b>Transposition on the Flemish level</b>	Decreet van 17 maart 2006 tot omzetting van Richtlijn 2001/96/EG van het Europees Parlement en de Raad van 4 december 2001 tot vaststelling van geharmoniseerde voorschriften en procedures voor het veilig laden en lossen van bulkschepen	

## // abstract:

The aim of the directive is to increase the safety of bulk carriers, that call in at terminals in the Member States for the loading or unloading of solid bulk cargo. The risks of extreme pressure and damage to the ship's structure during loading or unloading are reduced, by setting (1) harmonised suitability requirements for these ships and terminals, and (2) harmonised procedures for cooperation and communication between these ships and the terminals.

The competent authorities of the Member States have the right to halt the loading and unloading operations if the ship's or the crew's safety is endangered. In case of infringements of the provisions of this directive, every Member State should implement appropriate and effective penalties. Every three years, the Member States report to the Commission, allowing the evaluation of the application of this directive.