

Ref No: LAM-PR006/2017

**Stay Safe Afloat:**

**Advice on Bad Weather Conditions during May 2017**

Bad weather is a common worry for all seafarers and especially for tourist transport providers. Liveboard Association of Maldives (LAM), as an organization formed to protect and develop the boating industry would like to advise the industry to make adequate preparations and precautions during this time of bad weather going around in Maldives.

**Avoid Night Operations and cruising in Stormy Weather:**

The most effective method of avoiding the effects of bad weather at sea is just to avoid sailing during the dark. A primary reason for vessels getting caught in heavy weather is because they ignore warnings in their determined efforts to get to the next port or to return home.

Having Modern technology doesn't mean there is no reason for you to put yourself in danger. It is strongly advisable you refer to local weather forecasts before setting out and have updated forecasts even during the journey.

It's very important to recheck all safety equipment onboard and ensure all are working perfectly.

Keeping informed of your journey while leaving and reaching ports are important measures which the industry can take to avoid any circumstances due to bad weather, which will ease the operation in case of any unexpected situation.

**When You Get Caught Out:**

In an unexpected case of getting caught on a bad situation. The first action should be to inform **MNDF Coast Guard on 191** and the Owner / Operator of the vessel and inform your vessel position. Remember to always sail to the crew's abilities and to ensure the safety of everyone onboard.

Thank you

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