



Ministry monitoring Venezuelan oil storage vessel near Gulf of Paria



Minister of Energy and Energy Industries, Franklin Khan, said they are closely monitoring a Venezuelan oil storage vessel which was said to be in an emergency situation near the Gulf of Paria.

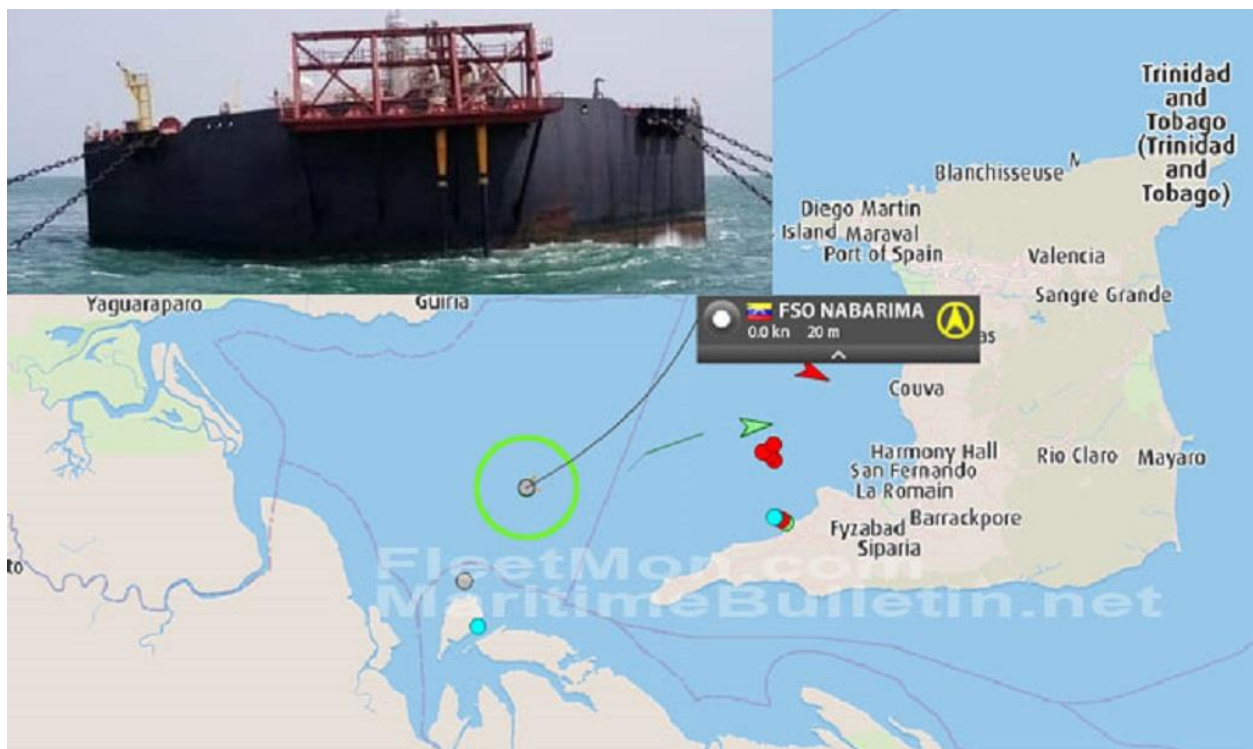
Khan said that the Ministry is monitoring the situation very closely regarding the NABARIMA, a floating stored oil (FSO) vessel which stores oil from the Corocoro Oil field in the Venezuelan Gulf.

‘The MEEI is monitoring the situation closely. There is currently a bi-lateral oil spill contingency plan between Venezuela and Trinidad and Tobago that will govern our response to any eventuality. Parties are free to request assistance from each other.’

The Ministry said the FSO would transfer oil to tankers for shipment abroad, however because of various international sanctions, the transfer vessels have stopped operating and the FSO is now at full capacity.

‘Information coming out of Venezuela is that the ship is upright and in a stable condition pending preparation for the transfer of the cargo to a contracted vessel,’ Khan said.

According to a report by [Maritime Bulletin](#), the NABARIMA was reported to be in an emergency situation with some 173,000 tons of oil aboard, and was suffering water ingress in the engine room area, developing a starboard list.



Photos of the vessel were shared via Twitter by Eudis Girot on August 30, 2020:



Eudis Girot
@EudisGiot



SE HUNDE NABARIMA es una plataforma de almacenamiento tiene 1300000 bls de petroleo a bordo a punto de derramarse y causar una terrible catástrofe mundial desde golfo de Paria y el Caribe.

Condiciones paupérrimas y profundo deterioro, cubierta inferior y equipos 3 mts bajo agua



3:23 PM · Aug 30, 2020



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More as this story develops.