



**INTERPRETATION OF ADMINISTRATION IN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND CODE
(NMA_C72.2026.Rev.0)**

(a) DEFINITION:

1. "DOC" – Document of Compliance as required by the ISM Code
2. "IACS" – International Association of Classification Societies
3. "IMO" – International Maritime Organization
4. "PSC" – Port State Control
5. "RO" – Recognized Organization authorized by the Administration
6. "UI(s)" – Unified Interpretation(s) issued by IACS
7. "UR(s)" – Unified Requirement(s) issued by IACS

The "Administration" shall mean the Nauru Maritime Administration.

(b) PURPOSE:

This circular clarifies the approach of the Nauru Maritime Administration to provisions within international instruments that stipulate a matter must be accepted "**to the satisfaction of the Administration**". It establishes a clear order of reference for interpretations to ensure consistent application by Companies and ROs.

(c) APPLICATION

This marine circular applies to:

1. All Nauru-registered vessels;
2. All ROs acting on behalf of the Administration; and
3. All parties involved in the design, construction, survey and operation of Nauru-registered vessels.

(d) CONTENTS

1. General Approach

- 1.1. When an international requirement states that a matter is "to the satisfaction of the Administration," the outcome must be achieved in a verifiable and consistent manner. It shall be based on recognized technical standards and internationally accepted interpretations.
- 1.2. The Administration may issue specific flag State requirements via circulars, notices, or other official communications. These documents provide the Administration's accepted methods, required evidence, and interpretation for such provisions.
- 1.3. Where the Administration has issued specific guidance or instructions, they shall take precedence for all Nauru-registered vessels.
- 1.4. Companies must ensure that all applicable evidence and records are maintained onboard and/or ashore as required, and shall produce them upon request by the RO, the Administration, or a Port State Control officer.



2. Use of IMO Guidance / Circulars and IACS UIs

In the absence of a specific interpretation issued by the Administration on a particular provision, the latest relevant IMO guidance / circulars, and IACS UIs or URs, may be applied to promote harmonized implementation. This applies provided they do not conflict with any existing instructions from the Administration.

3. RO interpretation in the Absence of Precedent by the Administration and IMO / IACS instruction

As the Administration has delegated duties for plan review and survey to ROs, the RO is authorized to apply a reasonable and practicable technical interpretation for matters not covered by the Administration's instructions or relevant IMO/IACS documents. Such interpretations must remain within the limits of the applicable convention and employ standards and criteria acceptable to the RO.

4. Procedure for Seeking Clarification

4.1. For queries relating to provisions containing the text "to the satisfaction of the Administration," **Companies should first contact the vessel's assigned RO.**

For further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the Administration at: tech@naurumaritime.com.