



# NAURU

## MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

### 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.



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## 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](mailto:tech@naurumaritime.com).