



NAURU

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

AUTHORITY OF RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS ON PORT STATE / FLAG STATE DETENTIONS **(NMA_C73.2026.Rev.0)**

(a) DEFINITION:

1. "DOC" – Document of Compliance (ISM Code)
2. "IACS" – International Association of Classification Societies
3. "ISM Code" – International Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and for Pollution Prevention
4. "PSC" – Port State Control
5. "RO" – Recognized Organization as defined by MSC.349(92) / MEPC.237(65)
6. "SMS" – Safety Management System
7. "SSP" – Ship Security Plan

The "Administration" shall mean the Nauru Maritime Administration.

(b) PURPOSE:

This Administration has delegated its authority to RO to perform ship statutory survey and certification services.

The circular provides clarity to ship owners and operators regarding the scope of authority granted to RO. It details the role of ROs in ensuring compliance with mandatory international convention requirements and to specify the potential consequences of non-compliance, which commonly lead to Port State Control (PSC) detentions.

(c) REFERENCE:

1. NMA_C17 – Port State Control Detention
2. NMA_C74 – Guideline on the Conduct of Port State Control (PSC) Inspections under MARPOL Annex VI

(d) APPLICATION:

This marine circular applies to all Nauru-registered vessels subject to statutory survey and certification.

(e) CONTENTS:

1. General

- 1.1. While the ultimate responsibility for ensuring compliance with international conventions rests with the Administration, the Administration has authorized ROs to conduct the requisite surveys, inspections, audits, and assessments to verify compliance. ROs are empowered to issue the relevant statutory certification on behalf of Nauru as evidence of this compliance.
- 1.2. Furthermore, in accordance with the RO Agreement and in consultation with the Administration, ROs shall be advised by the Administration to withdraw, cancel, or invalidate statutory certificates they have issued, based on the findings of their verification activities.



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- 1.3. Where a vessel or its operator fails to correct a serious deficiency, ROs are authorized to suspend the relevant statutory certificates until all such deficiencies are rectified.
- 1.4. ROs may also provide recommendations to ship owners/operators concerning compliance with specific requirements of the international conventions to which Nauru is a signatory.

2. Port State Control (PSC)

ROs are authorized to cooperate with PSC officers on behalf of the Administration to facilitate the rectification of deficiencies identified on Nauru-registered vessels. When ROs are made aware of deficiencies identified by PSC authorities, they are required to report all such deficiencies to the Administration, regardless of whether they resulted in detention.

3. PSC Detention

- 3.1. The relevant RO, in consultation with the Administration, may attend any Nauru-registered vessel detained by PSC authorities. It is the responsibility of the ship manager or master to notify the Administration and the RO immediately upon detention.
- 3.2. The attending RO surveyor shall address, but is not limited to, the deficiencies identified by PSC. The scope of the RO's inspection will be determined as follows:
 - 3.2.1 If the detention date falls within the ± 3 (three) month window for annual statutory surveys or the -3 (three) month window prior to renewal surveys, the RO shall conduct these surveys prior to the vessel sailing. For renewal surveys, they shall be conducted to the maximum extent possible, with safety equipment and radio surveys completed before departure. A schedule for completing any remaining surveys at the next convenient port must be established without delay.
 - 3.2.2 If the detention date falls outside these survey windows, the attending RO surveyor must, after clearing the PSC deficiencies, carry out a general examination of the vessel. Additional surveys may be required based on the professional judgment of the surveyor.
 - 3.2.3 Depending on the number and nature of deficiencies, the RO may conduct an additional audit of the SMS or SSP, equivalent to an Intermediate Audit.

4. Consequences of Subsequent PSC Detentions

- 4.1. The Administration reserves the right to cancel a vessel's registration if the vessel is detained twice by PSC within a one (1) year period. However, should registration be allowed to continue:
 - 4.1.1 All statutory certificates may be suspended from the date of detention. The RO will notify the Master and/or ship owner/operator in writing that the certificates are invalidated or withdrawn.
 - 4.1.2 The RO may require an Initial Audit of the Company, the extent of which will reflect the number and nature of the deficiencies.



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4.1.3 The RO may conduct an Additional Audit equivalent to a Renewal Audit, along with a comprehensive inspection of the ship.

4.1.4 If statutory certificates have been withdrawn, they shall not be reinstated until the RO has conducted renewal surveys, there are no outstanding items, and both the Administration and PSC authorities are satisfied.

5. Flag State Detentions

5.1. The RO is authorized to invalidate or withdraw a statutory certificate, in consultation with the Administration, if corrective action is not taken for a deficiency and a survey determines the vessel is not in substantial compliance. This applies when a vessel is deemed unfit to proceed to sea without danger to the vessel, persons on board, or presents an unreasonable threat to the marine environment.

5.2. In such cases, the RO must provide written notice to the Master and/or ship owner/operator of the invalidation/withdrawal and request the immediate surrender of the statutory certificates.

5.3. Concurrently, the Administration shall provide written notice that the vessel has been placed under Flag State Detention. The

5.4. Statutory certificate(s) shall not be reinstated until the required corrective action—which may be equivalent to that required to resolve a PSC detention—has been accomplished to the satisfaction of both the Administration and the RO.

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