



The Republic of Palau
Palau International Ship Registry
“A New Vision of Quality in Ship Registration Services”

MN No.16-031

Revision No. 00

Issue Date:
December 19th,
2016

MARINE NOTICE 16-031 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF SHIP'S BALLAST WATER AND SEDIMENTS, 2004

To: ALL SHIPOWNERS, MANAGERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS, DEPUTY REGISTRARS AND AUTHORIZED CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES

Subject: **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF SHIP'S BALLAST WATER AND SEDIMENTS, 2004**

1. Objective

- 1.1 The purpose of this Marine Notice is to provide guidance/standards for the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (The Ballast Water Management Convention) where most ships will have to install an on-board type approved system to treat ballast water and eliminate unwanted organisms.

2. Applicability

- 2.1 These standards are applicable as of September 08th, 2017 to all Palauan ships(i.e. vessels of any type operating in the aquatic environment) to which the present Convention applies and these ships will be requested to:
- Have an approved ballast water management plan on board.
 - Maintain a ballast water record book.
 - Manage their ballast water on every voyage by performing ballast water exchange (or by treating it using an approved ballast water treatment system)and
 - Undertake an initial survey and have an International Ballast Water Management. Certificate issued (for ships of 400 gross tonnage and above to which the Convention applies, excluding floating platforms, FSUs and FPSOs)



The Convention does not normally apply to:

- Ships not carrying ballast water.
- Ships engaged in national voyages.
- Ships that only operate in waters under the jurisdiction of one party and on high seas, subject to a written authorization of that Party for such exclusion.
- Warships, naval auxiliary or other ships owned or operated by a State provided it is used only on government non-commercial service.
- Pleasure craft that are less than 50m in overall length and that have a maximum ballast water capacity of 8 m³.

3. References: (Resolution A.1088(28) Adopted on December 04th, 2013 / International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004).

4. General Requirements:

- 4.1 All ships will be requested on the first renewal survey to have an International Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate(IOPP) after September 08th, 2017 and to carry on board the following:
- “Ballast Water Management Plan” approved by the Recognized Organization on behalf of this Administration, according to a process developed by the IMO.
 - “Ballast Water Record Book” for the recording of each operation concerning ballast water management.
 - “International Ballast Water Management Certificate” with five (5) year validity and subject to annual, intermediate and renewal surveys.

5. International Ballast Water Management Certificate

All ships over 400 gt to which the Convention applies will be requested to be surveyed and issued with an International Ballast Water Management Certificate valid for five (5) years, subject to annual, intermediate and renewal surveys.

It will be possible to issue an International Ballast Water Management Certificate prior to entry into force of the Convention (September 08th, 2017) provided that it is annotated to state that the validity begins as from September 08th, 2017. (Refer to IMO Circular BWM.2/Circ.40).



6. Exemptions

Under regulation A-4 of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004, this Administration, in water under its jurisdiction, may grant exemptions in addition to exemptions contained elsewhere in the Convention but only where they are granted:

- To a ship(s) on a voyage(s) between specified ports or locations.
- To a ship which operates exclusively between specified ports or locations.
- To ships that do not mix ballast water or sediments other than between the specified ports or locations.
- Any exemption granted should be based on the IMO G7 Guidelines on risk assessment and will not be valid for more than five (5) years. An exemption may be withdrawn at any time for breach of condition or in emergency situations.

7. IOPP renewal survey and harmonization of statutory certification

In general, this Administration has no objection to de-harmonize the IOPP certificate, anticipate its renewal survey before the date of entry into force of the Convention and to re-align it to the other statutory certificates at the first opportunity, provided the request is justified.

Owners willing to use this possibility should complete the Application for Exemption - (PISR APPL 012 - REV 0.2 Application for Exemption form, attached herewith), along with a documented justification for a case by case examination by the vessel's RO.

RO should forward the completed form to this Administration for further evaluation. The RO should clearly indicate their support or reservation of any aspect of the application, and if relevant, any recommendations or conditions that may be considered.

Subject to positive evaluation, this Administration will authorize the RO to perform a renewal survey for IOPP and to issue a new full term IOPP Certificate upon satisfactory completion of the said survey.

Owners are reminded that the above does not supersede requirements of the Coastal State where the vessel is/will be operating

8 Ballast Water Management Plans

All ships with ballast water capacity and which are subject to the Ballast Water Management Convention Article 3 should have on board an approved ship-specific Ballast Water Management Plan and a Ballast Water Record Book to comply with the BWM Convention. The Ballast Water Management Plan is requested to:

- Assist the ship in complying with international regulations to minimize the risk of the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens in ships' ballast water and associated sediments
- Identify the ship's Ballast Water Management Officer



- Consider ship safety elements, provide information to PSC Officers on the ship's ballast handling system and confirm that ballast water management can be effectively planned
- Include training on BWM operational practices
- Be written in the working language of the ship. If this language is not English, then a translation into English should be included.

9 Actions to be taken by Ship owners, Ship's Operators and Managers

Ship owners, Ship's Operators and Managers should conform to the following steps in order to comply with the Convention:

- To review the ship's plans and ballast systems to ensure compliance with the BWM convention
- To develop a BWM plan
- To install an approved ballast water treatment system as applicable
- To submit the BWM plan for approval to the Recognized Organization responsible for statutory certification of the vessel on behalf of this Administration
- To arrange for an initial survey to be carried out by the Recognized Organization responsible for the vessel's statutory certification on behalf of this Administration and to obtain an International Ballast Water Management Certificate
- To train the ship's staff in BWM operations
- To maintain records in the ballast water record book as per the BWM plan including sediment management.

For further information regarding the issuance of this Marine Notice, please contact:

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The list of the last updated Republic of Palau Marine Notices may be found at: www.palaushipregistry.com



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APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION/EQUIVALENCE/DISPENSATION/EXTENSION¹
CERTIFICATES

VESSEL AND OWNER(S) PARTICULARS

NAME OF VESSEL	IMO NUMBER	CALL SIGN	OFFICIAL NUMBER
TYPE OF VESSEL	GROSS TONNAGE	YEAR BUILT	RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Convention and Regulation to be exempted: _____

Convention and Regulation allowing for the issuance of the exemption:

Conditions for Exemption _____

Vessels area of navigation: ____

Vessels frequent ports of call _____

Provide any additional information it may be necessary

Applicant Name (Print letters) _____

Applicant Signature _____

Date (mm/dd/yyyy) _____

¹ Delete as appropriate