

St. Kitts & Nevis International Ship Registry

*Flying the flag of the
Federation Worldwide*



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Maritime Circular to Maritime Registrars, Shipowners, Masters, Managers & Operators of St. Kitts & Nevis Ships, Classification Societies, Recognised Organisations, Recognised Security Organisations, Surveyors of Ships & Flag State Inspectors to this Administration, Seafarers & IMO Member States

Maritime Circular No. MC/58/13

DATE: December 2013

FISH PRODUCT TRANSHIPMENT OPERATIONS IN THE NORTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION (NEAFC) AREA AND EEZ OF NORWAY & FISHING VESSELS OUTSIDE THE NEAFC RFMO

Further to the Annual General Meeting of the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) which concluded on the 15th November 2013, I am pleased to announce that we have renewed our membership of the NEAFC as a Co-Operating Non Contracting Party (CNCP). The only other Cooperating Non Contracting Parties are Canada and New Zealand.

The reporting requirements placed on us as an Administration have increased following a tightening of the enforcement requirements made at the AGM. We will be working with the NEAFC Secretariat more closely and our Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) providers, Fulcrum Maritime Systems to establish how we can best deal with these without impacting the vessels too much.

As well as the usual formalities contained in an application for registration, the following and any other requirements as may be needed, including those of an RFMO, will be required for a fishing vessel to be registered with SKANReg;

- 1) At the recent 28th Assembly of the IMO, Resolution A 1078 (28) was passed which extends the IMO Ship Identification Scheme to fishing vessels over 100GT. Though this is a non-mandatory scheme, St. Kitts & Nevis will make this mandatory. Therefore;
 - a. No fishing vessel will be registered which is not marked with an IMO number.
 - b. No fishing vessel under 100GT will be registered.
- 2) Each fishing vessel applying for registration must be fitted with LRIT transmitting equipment, according to SOLAS Chapter V/19-1, capable of transmitting its position to our LRIT data centre. As an alternative a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) that is already fitted to the fishing vessel and used to send its position to an existing RFMO may be used. However, this VMS will have to be authorised by SKANReg before we will consider the fishing vessel for registration.
- 3) Each fishing vessel applying for registration must be in possession of or in the process of applying for a fishing permit/licence from the RFMO or national authorities within whose waters or EEZ it intends to fish and/or land catches. WE DO NOT ISSUE A HIGH SEAS FISHING LICENCE AT THE MOMENT. An authenticated copy of the licence or proof of the application for the licence will need to be submitted with the application. In the case of an application that is rejected by the RFMO or National Authority, SKANReg will have the right to suspend the registration of the fishing vessel until a licence is obtained.

- 4) Where the fishing vessel does not intend to fish in an RFMO area or National Waters or an EEZ, full details of the area where the fishing vessel intends to fish and land its catch are to be given. This will include geographical co-ordinates, ports, anchorages and in the case of transshipment, the names of ships to which catches will be transhipped. This information will need to be updated with any changes. Failure to do so and the ships registration may be suspended immediately.
- 5) Each fishing vessel applying for registration must supply full details of the following, updating these when any changes occur:
 - a. Equipment being used to catch fish, i.e. fishing gear
 - b. Species intended to be caught
 - c. Method of processing and/or landing/transshipping fish e.g. frozen, wrapped, boxed or other method, is to be described.
- 6) When landing or transshipping fish or fish products the fishing vessel must:
 - a. Advise SKANReg at least 24 hours in advance of the intended landing or transshipment;
 - b. Advise the port or vessel (including flag & IMO number or Call Sign) to which the fish or fish products are to be landed or transhipped.
 - c. Advise the fish or fish products which are to be transhipped or landed including species, type of packaging & weight(s)
 - d. Send a copy of the receipts for the fish or products to SKANReg office promptly after completion of the operation. These can be sent by email or fax.
- 7) Masters & Officers of fishing vessels are required to co-operate with any inspection and/or boarding for inspection by any appropriate official (s) and respect the provisions of the appropriate RMFO Scheme and all other Recommendations that they may establish.
- 8) Failure of an Owner, Manager, Master or ship to comply with the afore-mentioned requirements and any others that may be added from time to time may result in termination of the ships registration.

If you have any questions about this Maritime Circular please contact us.

Yours truly,



Nigel E Smith
International Registrar of Shipping and Seamen