

Merchant Marine Circular

Panama Maritime Authority
General Directorate of Merchant Marine
Control and Compliance Department

MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-35

To: Captains, Resident Agents, Recognized Security Organization (RSO), Recognized Organizations (RO) authorized by the Panama Maritime Authority.

Subject: Bareboat Charter Flagging.

Reference: Law No. 57 of August 6, 2008, Chapter IV, Special Registries, Section 1, Registry of Foreign Vessels under Bareboat Charter in Panama, Articles 70 and subsequent, Section 2, Registry of Panamanian Vessels under Bareboat Charter Abroad, Articles 80 and subsequent;
Resolution J.D. No. 048-2020 of May 14, 2020;
Resolution No. 106-002-DGMM of January 21, 2022;
Resolution No. 106-31-DGMM of May 16, 2022.

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1. The purpose of this Circular is to inform about the chartering figure under its three modalities:
 - Flagging of Foreign Ships under Bareboat Charter in Panama (OUT – IN).
 - Ships flagged in Panama and chartered in Panama (IN–IN).
 - Vessels flagged in Panama and chartered abroad (IN–OUT).
 2. Vessels registered in a foreign Registry that opt for the Panamanian flag as Charter Registration, may apply in Panama for the Flagging of Foreign Ships under Bareboat Charter (OUT-IN), without the need to forgo their current registration, provided that the legislation of the country where the ship comes from, allows it.
 3. Vessels registered in the Panama Registry that also opt for the Panamanian flag as Charter Registration may apply in Panama (IN–IN) in order to register the bareboat charter contract.
 4. Vessels registered in the Registry of Panama, who choose to register their charter contract in a foreign Registry, must request the respective certification of no objection to the chartering (IN-OUT).



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5. Every vessel under the charter modality must comply with the obligation to maintain its current insurance policies and financial guarantees. Excepted from this provision are those ships under the charter mode, (IN-OUT), (Registered in Panama chartered abroad).
6. Requirements for registration under the modality Flagging of Foreign Ships under Bareboat Charter in Panama (OUT-IN).
 - Simple copy of the Bareboat Charter Contract.
 - Application detailing the time for which the registration of the ship in the Special Registry is required, indicating the start and end day, month and year; the name and address of the ship's charterer and the name and address of the ship's mortgagees, if any.
 - Original consent of the owner of the ship duly authenticated and/or legalized.
 - Original consent of the mortgagee(s), if any, duly authenticated and/or legalized.
 - Simple copy of the Certificate of ownership and encumbrances issued by the registry of the vessel in the foreign country.
 - Certification of consent from the country of foreign registration of the ship, for registration in the special charter registry of Panama.
 - Original or copy of the Power of Attorney (POA, for its acronym in English) or instrument of designation of the ship's resident agent, granted by the charterer, duly authenticated and/or legalized.
 - Vessels dedicated to fishing or that provide support to fishing must present a copy of the Fishing License issued by the Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama.
 - Any other documentation or information requested by the General Directorate of Merchant Marine.
7. Requirements for registration under the modality Vessels flagged in Panama and chartered in Panama (IN-IN).
 - Original or copy of the Power of Attorney (POA, for its acronym in English) that is, the instrument of designation of the resident agent granted by the charterer.
 - Simple copy of the Bareboat Charter Contract.
 - Application through Memorial, detailing the time for which the registration of the vessel in the Special Registry is required, indicating the start and end day, month and year; the name and address of the ship's charterer and the name and address of the ship's mortgagees, if any.



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- Original consent of the mortgagee(s), if any, duly authenticated and/or legalized.
 - Simple copy of the Certificate of ownership and encumbrances.
 - Any other documentation or information that the General Directorate of Merchant Marine requests.
 - Vessels dedicated to fishing or that provide support to fishing must present a copy of the Fishing License issued by the Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama.
8. Requirements for registration under the modality flagged in Panama and chartered abroad (IN-OUT).
- Memorial requesting certification of no objection or consent to chartering, under another flag.

August, 2022 – *Changes in the Subject, Reference and changes all circular about in the requirements that govern the registration of ships, under the charter modality.*
February, 1992.

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Merchant Marine Circular or any other request should be forwarded to:

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