



Department of Marine Administration - Yangon Myanmar

POLICY FOR CHANGING THE FLAG AND WITHDRAWING THE FLAG

Operational Procedure : QOP-72-01-(23)

Revision:0

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Merchant Shipping Act, Section 294-B

Subj: INTERIM GUIDANCE FOR CHANGING THE FLAG STATE AND WITHDRAW PROCEDURE

Ref: (a) Merchant Shipping Act, Section 294-B

1. Purpose

This policy letter provides interim guidance to ensure Myanmar flag oceangoing ships are in compliance with International Convention, National Standard and Regulations until their withdraw the Flag.

2. Action

Myanmar Flag State Ship Owner shall use this interim guidance to comply when their ships to be changed the Flag and to be withdrawn the Myanmar Flag.

3. Directives Affected

April 21 2014.

4. Background

Myanmar is contracting state to most of the international maritime Conventions. As the flag Administration for Myanmar-registered ships, DMA ensures that these ships comply with international and national rules and regulations, covering maritime safety and security, marine environmental protection, and social, living and working conditions on board.

As a responsible flag Administration, DMA has put in place infrastructure, resources and processes to discharge its obligations and continually improve its performance.

This section covers the obligations of shipowners / companies of Myanmar-registered ships and other related information.

Approved by & date:

Approved by & date:

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5. Objective

The objective of changing the flag State and Flag withdraw procedure are;

- Support the quality shipping objectives of DMA.
- Enforce high standard of compliance with international and national rules and standards for Myanmar flagged ships.
- Verify the actual condition of Myanmar flagged ships conform to the certificates they carry. The scope of the verification include;
Hull equipment and manning, Safety management and security systems
- Ensure that the ship's crew can effectively;
Co-ordinate their activities in an emergency situation, Perform function vital to safety, and Prevent or mitigate pollution.
- Monitor the work performed by recognized organizations that act on behalf of the DMA.

6. Procedure

Myanmar flagged ship owners want to change his owned ship to change the flag or withdraw the flag due to the many reasons, the ship owner shall comply as follows;

- 1) Ship Owner shall inform Director General of the Department of Marine Administration with written method in detail requirements.
- 2) The Director General shall assign the duties to the respective Director.
- 3) The respective Director shall give instructions to the recognized organizations and ship owner in accordance with relevant regulations.
- 4) After completing all of the process, the respective Director shall inform Director General for approval.
- 5) After approved by Director General, the respective Director shall take the actions for changing the flag or withdraw or terminate the flagged ship.