



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY

MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-270

PanCanal Building
Albrook, Panama City
Republic of Panama
Tel: (507) 501-5348
jortega@segumar.com

To: Ship-owners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organizations (ROs).

Subject: Fishing Vessels and Ships engaged in the activities of support to the operations of capturing fishing resources.

Reference: Resolution J.D. No. 053-2012, Resolution No. 106-23-DGMM, Resolution A. 1078 (28)

1- The purpose of this Circular is to inform users that Reefers willing to provide assistance to fishing, must process their Fishing license with the Authority of Aquatic Resources of Panama (ARAP).

2- The aforementioned is in compliance with the Executive Decree No. 49 of October 19, 2009, whose First Article establishes that vessels of International service registered or seeking to be registered under the Panamanian Merchant Marine engaged in fishing, capturing, transferring and transport of aquatic resources, as well as those engaged in activities of support to the operations of capturing these resources, must have an International Fishing license.

3- Reefers that are not engaged in activities of support to the operations of capturing or carrying fishing resources, shall submit at the time of renewal of their Regulation certificate, a declaration of the product transported by them.

4- With the aforementioned Declaration of Products, we are aiming at improving the control maintained with our Reefers, as well as to guarantee that they are in compliance with the regulations related to fishing matters.

<i>Prepared by: Translator</i>	Revised by: Compliance and Enforcement Deputy Chief	<i>Aproved by: Compliance and Enforcement Chief</i>
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		Page 1 of 2

5- For your reference we have included [Executive Decree No. 160 of June 6, 2013](#), [Executive Decree No. 161 of June 6, 2013](#) and [Executive Decree No. 162 of June 6, 2013](#).

6- Up to date, a great number of Regional Fishing Organizations are foreseeing to require an “IMO number” to all ships that belong and are registered in their Organizations.

Through Resolution A. 1078(28) adopted on December 4, 2013, known as “System for the allocation of an IMO number to Ships for their Identification”, the International Maritime Organization, makes recommendations to Administrations on how to apply the system of allocation of an “IMO number” to new and existing ships flying their flag when undertaking international voyages, including ships exclusively dedicated to fishing with a tonnage equal or above 100 gross tons (GT).

This Administrations focused on supporting duties conducted by the Regional Fishing Organizations and with the objective to improve the Maritime Safety, as well as facilitate the prevention of maritime fraud, recommends that all ships of international fishing service, request an identification IMO number, based on the standards established by the International Maritime Organization.

In order to obtain an “IMO number”, for both new and existing vessels, please visit the website www.imonumbers.ihs.com or send your request to the E-mail ship.imo@ihs.com.

September, 2014– *New point 6 included and changes in reference and subject*
August, 2013– *New point 5 included (hyperlinks)*
April, 2013– *New changes in paragraph 3 (elimination of its first paragraph)*
April, 2013– *Change in paragraph 3*
March, 2013

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any request should be directed to:
Department of Resolutions and Inquiries
Directorate General of Merchant Marine
Panama Maritime Authority
Phone: (507) 501-5205
Fax: (507) 501-5013
E-mail: jcumings@amp.gob.pa

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		Page 2 of 2