



The Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration Guidelines on Selection Criterion for Recognised Organisations

Merchant Shipping Notice 03/2018

Reference:

- a) Merchant Shipping Act, 1995 and its Amendments
- b) The Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code) adopted by the Organization by IMO Resolutions MSC.349 (92);
- c) IMO Resolution MEPC.237 (65);
- d) SMSA Quality Manual;
- e) III Code

Background

As per the provisions of regulation I/6 of SOLAS 1974, article 13 of LL 66, regulation 6 of MARPOL Annex I and regulation 8 of MARPOL Annex II and article 6 of TONNAGE 69, The Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration (SMSA) may authorize a Recognised Organisation (RO) to act on its behalf in issuance of statutory certification and services and determination of tonnages only to ships entitled to fly its flag as required by these conventions.

In doing so, SMSA adopts the following criterion in selection of Recognised Organisations (ROs), to act on its behalf, for the issuance of statutory certificates, periodic inspections and investigations on Seychelles registered foreign going vessels.

1. Minimum Selection Criterion

Recognised Organisations Authorised by SMSA:

- 1) shall be members of International Association of Classification Societies (IACs);



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- 2) shall demonstrate experience and expertise in construction of ships, design and equipment of foreign going merchant ships;
- 3) shall have adequate resources in terms of technical, managerial and operational capabilities to accomplish the tasks being assigned as per the IMO III Code and relevant instruments;
- 4) demonstrate willingness to have a formal written agreement between the Administration;
- 5) shall have a documented and updated quality management system;
- 6) shall have a qualified professional staff to provide the required service representing an adequate geographical coverage as required by the Administration; and
- 7) meet the criteria provided in appendix 2 of the RO Code

2. The need for a written Agreement

In delegating the ROs, SMSA shall ensure the fulfillment of the following conditions:

- 1) a written agreement shall be entered between SMSA and the RO taking into consideration the RO Code;
- 2) the elements to be included in the agreement are those elements provided in appendix 3 of the RO code.

Oversight on ROs



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3. SMSA relies on the audit and inspections reports conducted by IACs on the ROs delegated. In doing so, SMSA shall evaluate the performance of the RO based on the following performance indicators:
 - 1) port State performance of ROs;
 - 2) results of RO's internal audits;
 - 3) results of quality management system audits performed by third-party organizations (ACBs);
 - 4) the results of previous performance monitoring; and
 - 5) condition/compliance of ships that receive survey and certification from the ROs.

4. Notwithstanding paragraph 3, SMSA may conduct an audit or inspection using its own surveyors, may enter into a written agreement to participate in combined monitoring/oversight activities with another flag State or States that have authorizations with the same RO, provided that the level of detail regarding individual flag State requirements and individual flag State performance are addressed at a level equivalent to an oversight programme conducted by each of the individual flag States ; or may adopt other oversight mechanism as deemed necessary.

Reporting Mechanism

5. The oversight to be carried on the RO shall , in the minimum, indicate if and whether:



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- 1) the RO has developed and implemented a quality management system and ensured continually improve its effectiveness;
- 2) The quality management system has included among others, a quality policy, quality objectives, quality manual;
- 3) the management of the RO has reviewed its quality management system; including a review of the RO's performance of statutory certification and services, at planned intervals, which shall not exceed 13 months, to ensure its continuing suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness;
- 4) the RO has established appropriate communication processes with the Flag State;

Responsible officer

6. In ensuring the effectiveness of the oversight programme the Director of SMSA:
 - 1) is responsible for ensuring appropriate oversight programme records are maintained;
 - 2) shall monitor, review the effectiveness of the oversight programme; and
 - 3) monitor reporting on the overall achievements of the oversight programme.
7. SMSA's monitoring records should be maintained to demonstrate the implementation of the oversight programme and should include the following:



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- 1) all records related to monitoring activities, such as: plans; reports; non-conformity reports; corrective and preventive action reports, and .5 follow-up reports, if applicable;
- 2) results of oversight programme review; and
- 3) records related to personnel covering subjects, such as assigned personnel competence and performance evaluation; monitoring and/or audit team selection; and maintenance and improvement of competence.

List of ROs

8. The list of delegated ROs authorized to act on behalf of SMSA is found at Marine Notice 5/2018.