



ZANZIBAR MARITIME AUTHORITY

01 MALINDI ROAD,
P.O.BOX 401,
71124 URBAN REGION,
ZANZIBAR - TANZANIA

TEL NO: +255 24 2236795
FAX NO: +255 024 2236796
WEBSITE: www.zma.go.tz
EMAIL: info@zma.go.tz

Circular No. FSI/16/2026

To: Recognized Organizations (RO), Recognized Security Organizations (RSO), Class Societies, Ship Owners / Operators, Masters and Other Interested Parties of Tanzania Zanzibar Registered Vessels

Subject: Reporting on Statutory Surveys and Certification Status to TZIRS

Purpose: To bring these instructions to the attention of all Recognized Organizations (ROs) and Recognized Security Organizations (RSOs) authorized to act on behalf of Tanzania Zanzibar International Register of Shipping (TZIRS) on the reporting requirements for the survey and certification status of Tanzania Zanzibar registered ships with the ultimate intention to avoid overdue surveys and the possibility to have vessels trading with expired certificates.

Scope and Applicability: This Circular applies to all ROs and RSOs authorized to act on behalf of Tanzania Zanzibar International Register of Shipping (TZIRS), and to all Ship Owners, Operators, and Managers of Tanzania Zanzibar flagged vessels.

Date: 20 October 2026

1. Legal basis and oversight

Pursuant to the Maritime Transport Act No. 5 of 2006 and the Zanzibar Maritime Authority Act No. 3 of 2009, the Zanzibar Maritime Authority (ZMA), as the competent maritime administration of Zanzibar, and the Tanzania Zanzibar International Register of Shipping (TZIRS), as the oversight body for the Tanzanian Zanzibar registered ships operating in international waters, are responsible for the administration of vessel registration, maritime safety and security and the implementation and enforcement of applicable international conventions and national legislation. Appointments are processed under the Administration's delegation framework.

The Tanzania International Zanzibar Register of Shipping (TZIRS) in compliance with the Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code) adopted by the International Maritime Organization through Resolution MSC.349(92) and Resolution MEPC.237(65) specifically in Regulation 3.9.2



ZANZIBAR MARITIME AUTHORITY

01 MALINDI ROAD,
P.O.BOX 401,
71124 URBAN REGION,
ZANZIBAR - TANZANIA

TEL NO: +255 24 2236795
FAX NO: +255 024 2236796
WEBSITE: www.zma.go.tz
EMAIL: info@zma.go.tz

regarding Communication/Cooperation with Flag State decided to setup a reporting procedure on Surveys and Certification Status by Recognized Organizations (ROs) and Recognized Security Organizations (RSOs).

2. Continuous compliance obligation

The Zanzibar Maritime Authority and TZIRS require that vessels registered under the Tanzania Zanzibar Flag always remain in continuous compliance with all applicable national and international regulations. Non-compliance may result in suspension or withdrawal.

3. Application and Requirements

All Recognized Organizations (ROs) and Recognized Security Organizations (RSOs) shall submit the following notifications to TZIRS Technical Department:

- 1) The Recognized Organizations (RO), Recognized Security Organizations (RSO) and Classification societies are required to notify the Flag Administration by sending an email to technical@tzirs.tz, PRIOR the intended Survey/Audit attendance not later than three (3) days before the attendance date, according to Circular No.FSI/16/2025.
- 2) When an Initial or Renewal survey or audit has been conducted and a Short-Term or Interim Certificate is issued, a written confirmation in a period no longer than thirty (30) days after the date of issuance shall be sent, along with copies of all certificates issued.
- 3) In cases where a Full-Term Certificate cannot be issued prior to the expiration date of the Short-Term or Interim Certificate, a prompt notification with at least twenty (20) days before the expiration date of the Short-Term or Interim Certificate shall be sent to the Technical Department allowing TZIRS to take preventive measures.
- 4) When Full-Term Certificates are issued, a written confirmation in a period no longer than thirty (30) days after the date of issuance shall be sent, along with copies of all certificates issued.
- 5) When Annual/Periodical/Intermediate surveys or audits are completed, a written confirmation shall be sent in a period no longer than thirty (30) days after the date of endorsement, along with copies of all certificates endorsed.



ZANZIBAR MARITIME AUTHORITY

01 MALINDI ROAD,
P.O.BOX 401,
71124 URBAN REGION,
ZANZIBAR - TANZANIA

TEL NO: +255 24 2236795
FAX NO: +255 024 2236796
WEBSITE: www.zma.go.tz
EMAIL: info@zma.go.tz

- 6) In cases where a Recognized Organization and/or Recognized Security Organization cannot arrange to conduct a Renewal/Annual/Periodical/Intermediate survey or audit within the window, rendering the certificates invalid, a prompt notification with at least twenty (20) days before the expiration date of the Short-Term or Interim Certificate shall be sent allowing TZIRS to take preventive measures.
- 7) In cases where a Recognized Organization and/or Recognized Security Organization suspends or withdraw the certification of a vessel due to overdue surveys or outstanding recommendations, a notification shall be sent as soon as the certificate becomes invalid.
- 8) At the first day of next calendar month every Recognized Organization (RO) and/or Recognized Security Organization (RSO) is required to submit to this Administration the following:
 - a. a monthly status report detailing survey/audit/suspension carried out for the foregoing calendar month.
 - b. updated Survey Status Report of the vessels included in the report mentioned above.

In addition to the above instructions, Recognized Organizations (ROs) and Recognized Security Organizations (RSOs) are also instructed not to conduct any overdue survey nor to extend any certificate beyond the stipulated period of validity without requesting an authorization to TZIRS Technical Department. For these cases, TZIRS Technical Department will proceed in accordance with regulation 5.6 “Revalidation of Certificates” and regulation 5.9 “Recommended Conditions for extending the period of validity of a certificate” of the latest edition of the IMO Resolution regarding “Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC).”

Having considered these instructions, all notifications should be sent to TZIRS Technical Department by means of an email to technical@tzirs.tz containing all information required in this Circular. Submission of certificates can be done either in electronic format or through a link with proper access and instructions on how to download all certificates using the RO/RSO web-based platform.



ZANZIBAR MARITIME AUTHORITY

01 MALINDI ROAD,
P.O.BOX 401,
71124 URBAN REGION,
ZANZIBAR - TANZANIA

TEL NO: +255 24 2236795
FAX NO: +255 024 2236796
WEBSITE: www.zma.go.tz
EMAIL: info@zma.go.tz

4. Entry into force

This Circular enters into force on **20 October 2026.**

For additional enquiries on this circular, please contact to:

Director General and the Registrar of Ships
Zanzibar Maritime Authority
P.O.BOX 401
Tel +255 24 2236795
Website: www.zma.go.tz
Email: technical@tzirs.tz; info@tzirs.tz

(MTUMWA S. SANDAL)

DIRECTOR GENERAL & REGISTRAR OF SHIPS

