ZANZIBAR MARITIME AUTHORITY

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ZANZIBAR - TANZANIA

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WEBSITE: www.zma.go.tz
EMAIL: info@zma.go.tz

Circular No. FSI/15/2026

To: Port State Authorities, Flag State Administrations, Recognized Organizations (ROs), Insurers, P&I Clubs, Shipowners, Ship Managers, Registration Agents, Masters and Other Maritime Stakeholders

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Subject: Fraudulent use of the Tanzanian flag by vessels deleted from the Tanzania Zanzibar International Register of Shipping

Purpose: This Circular provides official notice of vessels that are no longer registered under the authority of the Zanzibar Maritime Authority, establishes verification and reporting requirements, and sets out a controlled process through which a vessel may request removal from the public annex after proving valid registration under another flag.

Scope and Applicability: This Circular applies to the vessels identified in Annex 1 and to maritime administrations, port and coastal State authorities, recognized organizations, insurers, P&I clubs, owners, managers, agents, masters and other parties required to verify a vessel's claimed nationality or registry documentation.

Date: 14 October 2026

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1. Legal basis and references

This Circular is issued pursuant to the Marine Transport Act No. 5 of 2006, including sections 17 to 19, 24 to 26 and 48 to 51, and the Zanzibar Maritime Authority Act No. 3 of 2009, including sections 5 and 6. It should be read consistently with articles 91, 92 and 94 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea; IMO Assembly resolutions A.923(22), A.1142(31) and A.1162(32); LEG.1/Circ.10; and the Guidelines on the Registration of Ships contained in LEG.1/Circ.19.

2. Official status of the listed vessels

ZMA, through the Tanzania Zanzibar International Register of Shipping (TZIRS), confirms that every vessel identified in Annex 1 has the current registry status Deleted. Accordingly, the listed vessels are not presently registered under the authority of ZMA and have no entitlement to:

- fly or display the flag of the United Republic of Tanzania;
- identify Tanzania or Zanzibar as their current flag State or port of registry;
- use a Tanzanian Certificate of Registry or any other registry document as evidence of current nationality; or

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- represent that ZMA or TZIRS currently exercises flag State jurisdiction or control over them.

Any continued use of the Tanzanian flag or registry identity following deletion is unauthorized. A certificate or document presented for a listed vessel shall not be accepted as evidence of current Tanzanian nationality unless ZMA or TZIRS confirms in writing that a subsequent lawful registration has occurred.

3. Required action by maritime stakeholders

1. Do not accept Tanzanian registry or statutory documentation presented for a listed vessel without direct written verification from ZMA or TZIRS.
2. Port and coastal State authorities should take appropriate action under their national law and applicable international instruments when a listed vessel claims Tanzanian nationality.
3. Recognized organizations, insurers, P&I clubs, agents and service providers should suspend reliance on the claimed Tanzanian status until verification is completed.
4. Preserve copies of suspected Certificates of Registry, statutory certificates, radio licenses, continuous synopsis records, crew documents, company records, AIS screenshots and related correspondence.
5. Report the vessel's location, port, IMO number, call sign, MMSI, owner, operator and manager, together with available documentary evidence, to ZMA or TZIRS.
6. Where safety, security, pollution, sanctions or unlawful-activity concerns arise, notify the competent national authority without delay in addition to ZMA or TZIRS.

4. Verification and reporting procedure

Requests should identify the vessel by name and IMO number, describe the document or claim requiring verification, identify the requesting authority or organization and provide the name and contact details of a responsible person. Requests and supporting evidence should be submitted through the following official channels:

- Email: info@tzirs.tz
- Certificate verification: https://zma.oceansfrontier.com/certificate_validators/new
- Telephone and WhatsApp: +255 670 375 336
- Postal address: 01 Malindi Road, P.O. Box 401, 71124 Urban Region, Zanzibar, Tanzania

5. Removal of a vessel from Annex 1

A registered owner, ship manager or duly authorized representative of a vessel listed in Annex 1 may proactively request its removal from the public list by submitting a written application to TZIRS. The application shall include:

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- the vessel's current name, former name where applicable, IMO number, call sign and MMSI;
- a copy of the valid Certificate of Registry issued by the new flag Administration, or an official confirmation of registration issued directly by that Administration;
- the effective date of the new registration and the vessel's current port of registry;
- evidence that references to Tanzanian nationality have been removed from the vessel's physical markings, AIS data, radio license and operational documentation, as applicable;
- confirmation that any original Tanzanian registry documents remaining in the applicant's possession have been surrendered, returned or otherwise dealt with as directed by ZMA or TZIRS; and
- the applicant's identity, authority to act and current contact details.

TZIRS will verify the submitted evidence, including direct confirmation with the new flag Administration where considered necessary. Removal from Annex 1 will take effect only after TZIRS issues written confirmation and publishes an updated annex. Submission of an application does not by itself suspend the listing. Removal from Annex 1 does not validate any earlier unauthorized use of the Tanzanian flag, extinguish any outstanding obligation or prevent action by a competent authority in respect of prior conduct.

6. Status and updating of Annex 1

Annex 1 reflects cases verified by ZMA or TZIRS as of 14 October 2026 and is not necessarily exhaustive. ZMA may add, remove or amend entries whenever further cases or verified changes of status are identified. Stakeholders should consult the latest version published through official ZMA or TZIRS channels and obtain direct verification whenever doubt remains.

Nothing in this Circular prevents a competent authority from taking measures available under its national law or applicable international instruments. This Circular does not attribute criminal liability to any identified person; such liability remains a matter for the competent investigative or judicial authority.

7. Entry into force

This Circular enters into force on 14 October 2026 and shall remain in force until amended, superseded or withdrawn by the Administration.

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For additional enquiries on this circular, please contact:

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

(MTUMWA S. SANDAL)
DIRECTOR GENERAL & REGISTRAR OF SHIPS

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ANNEX 1

Vessels no longer entitled to fly the flag of the United Republic of Tanzania

Status date: 18 November 2026. Registry status: Deleted. This list is not necessarily exhaustive and may be amended by ZMA or TZIRS as additional cases or verified changes of status are identified.

No.	IMO No.	Ship name	Ship type	ZMA status
1	9072886	ALPINE 1	Pusher Tug	Deleted
2	9815836	BAIA DILIGENTE	Landing Craft	Deleted
3	9104316	DENA	General Cargo Ship	Deleted
4	8942905	DOBRYNYA NIKITICH	General Cargo Ship	Deleted
5	7707243	GULF 1	Platform Supply Ship	Deleted
6	9141649	INAYAH THE EXPLORER	General Cargo Ship	Deleted
7	7417197	KAISER	Platform Supply Ship	Deleted
8	9015981	KAYAN	General Cargo Ship	Deleted
9	8717740	MARINE A LIAN	Bunkering Tanker (Oil)	Deleted
10	9102239	PENNY H	Crude Oil tanker	Deleted
11	8923533	RAMESH 12	General Cargo Ship	Deleted
12	8919233	RAPID	General Cargo Ship	Deleted
13	9197337	SEA KITE	Utility Vessel	Deleted
14	7805904	SEA RIDE	Offshore Tug/Supply Ship	Deleted
15	9511911	SL-T13	Aggregates Carrier	Deleted
16	8741246	SL-T3	Aggregates Carrier	Deleted
17	9046435	SW6	Chemical/Products Tanker	Deleted
18	9238492	VENIZ	General Cargo Ship	Deleted
19	9033787	YU SHUN	Chemical Tanker	Deleted

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