ZANZIBAR MARITIME AUTHORITY

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Circular No. FSI/18/2026

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

Subject: Requirements for Technical Services for Tanzania Zanzibar Registered Vessels

Purpose: To promulgate the requirements for Technical Services rendered by the Zanzibar Maritime Authority (ZMA) and the Tanzania International Zanzibar Register of Shipping (TZIRS) to Tanzania Zanzibar vessels, and to publish the List of Technical Services available to Tanzania Zanzibar vessels.

Scope and Applicability: This Circular applies to all Ship Owners, Operators, Managers, Masters and Agents of Tanzania Zanzibar flagged vessels, and to all Recognized Organizations (ROs), Recognized Security Organizations (RSOs) and Class Societies acting on behalf of Tanzania, in respect of any application for the technical services and Technical Certificates/Letters listed in this Circular.

Date: 25 November 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 International Zanzibar Register of Shipping (TZIRS), as the oversight body for the Tanzania Zanzibar registered vessels 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 Administraton's delegation framework.

In the discharge of these statutory functions, and in accordance with the Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code) adopted by the International Maritime Organization through

Resolution MSC.349(92) and Resolution MEPC.237(65), TZIRS renders the technical services and issues the Technical Certificates/Letters listed in this Circular to Tanzania Zanzibar vessels.

2. Scope of technical services

The technical services listed in Section 3 apply to each application for the service concerned, irrespective of the gross tonnage of the vessel or of the number of documents subsequently issued, unless otherwise indicated.

Technical services not expressly listed in Section 3 shall be provided as may be determined by TZIRS in writing upon request.

The List of Technical Services shall be read together with the applicable requirements of the SOLAS, MARPOL, Load Line, COLREG, BWM and ILO/MLC Conventions and with the circulars of this Administration governing exemptions, dispensations, equivalents, extensions and authorizations; inclusion of a service in this List does not dispense any vessel from compliance with those requirements.

3. List of technical services

The technical services rendered by TZIRS are as follows:

No.	Type of Service	Description
1	Authorization/Permit	Attestation Letter
2	Authorization/Permit	Authorization for the Carriage of Armed Personnel
3	Authorization/Permit	Authorization to Carriage Industrial Personnel
4	Authorization/Permit	Authorization to Proceed (SDV)
5	Authorization/Permit	Authorization to Proceed under Tow
6	Dispensation	Dispensation Letter
7	Equivalent	Equivalent of Arrangement
8	Equivalent	Equivalent of Arrangement (SOLAS)
9	Exemptions	Exemption to BWMC
10	Exemptions	Exemption to COLREG

No.	Type of Service	Description
11	Exemptions	Exemption to ILO/MLC
12	Exemptions	Exemption to Load Line
13	Exemptions	Exemption to MARPOL
14	Exemptions	Exemption to SOLAS
15	Extension	Dry-Docking Extension
16	Prohibition	Prohibition from Sailing Notice
17	Regulatory Determination	Regulatory Determination
18	Authorization/Permit	Statement of Authorization (LSA)
19	Extension	Statement of Extension (LR, FFE)
20	Letter	To Whom It May Concern Letter
21	Waiver	Waiver of Requirement (MARPOL)

4. Validity of Technical Certificates/Letters

To maintain alignment with current international requirements and to avoid potential issues with Port State Control Authorities, TZIRS will continue enforcing the application of expiration dates on all Technical Certificates/Letters.

4.1 Technical Certificates/Letters linked to a statutory certificate shall carry an expiration date aligned with the validity of the corresponding statutory certificate, up to a maximum of five (5) years.

4.2 Technical Certificates/Letters not linked to a statutory certificate shall generally be valid for one (1) year, with the option for renewal.

4.3 In exceptional cases, certificates/Letters may be valid for up to five (5) years, depending on the type of certificate and at the discretion of the Administration.

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5. Renewal of Technical Certificates/Letters

All Technical Certificates and Letters held by Tanzania Zanzibar vessels must be applied for renewal no later than three (3) months before their expiration date; the validity period of the renewed certificate shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.

6. Making an application

6.1 To issue or renew a Technical Certificate/Letters, the Owner/Operator must submit the following through their agent of registry or the RO of the vessel:

(a) A completed Application Form for Technical Services (latest revision);

(b) Supporting documentation, if applicable (e.g., Statement of Fact, Survey Report, Statutory Certificate, Approved Plans/Booklets, etc.);

(c) A statement from the vessel's RO confirming agreement, if applicable;

(d) Latest Ship Survey Status Report;

(e) Provisional/Previous Technical Certificate/Letter, if applicable;

(f) Relevant Statutory Certificate with its Form, if applicable;

(g) If the relevant Statutory Certificate is unavailable, the expiration date of the relevant Full-Term Statutory Certificate from the vessel's RO;

6.2 Once all the required documents have been collected, the Agent of registry or RO of the vessel shall submit the application to the TZIRS Technical Department for processing through the email (technical@tzirs.tz).

7. Actions requested

The Administration encourages all Shipowners, Operators, Recognized Organizations, Recognized Security Organizations and Agent of Registry to review and comply with the contents of this Circular and to ensure that its provisions are implemented on all Tanzania Zanzibar vessels.

8. Disciplinary measures

8.1 Failure to adhere to the requirements outlined in this Circular may result in disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the Administration. This may include, but is not limited to:

(a) Suspension or revocation of the vessel's certification;

(b) Imposition of fines or penalties;

(c) Restrictions on the vessel's operations or trading activities;

(d) Other legal actions as specified under the applicable national legislation.

8.2 It is imperative that all parties adhere fully to the procedures and requirements to ensure proper certification and avoid any regulatory issues. The Administration respectfully asks that this Circular be read carefully and its guidance followed, and appreciates the cooperation and assistance of all parties.

11. Entry into force

This Circular enters into force on 25 November 2026.

For additional enquiries on this circular, please contact to:

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REGISTRAR OF SHIPS ZANZIBAR MARITIME AUTHORITY Z.M.A ZANZIBAR

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