



# NIGERIAN MARITIME ADMINISTRATION AND SAFETY AGENCY (NIMASA)

(Established under the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency Act, 2007)

Maritime House: 4 Burma Road, Apapa, P.M.B. 12861, Lagos.

E-mail: [info@nimasa.gov.ng](mailto:info@nimasa.gov.ng) Website: [www.nimasa.gov.ng](http://www.nimasa.gov.ng)

MN 09/20/SN01

## MARINE NOTICE

**TO ALL:** SHIPOWNERS, SHIPPING COMPANIES, SHIPPING AGENTS, SHIP OPERATORS, SHIP MANAGERS, FISHING TRAWLER OWNERS OR OPERATORS, SHIP CHARTERERS, MARITIME STAKEHOLDERS AND THE PUBLIC.

### CABOTAGE REGISTRATION OF VESSELS OPERATING IN NIGERIAN WATERS AND RENEWAL OF EXPIRED CERTIFICATES/LICENSES

In line with the Agency's statutory mandate under the Coastal and Inland Shipping (Cabotage) Act 2003 and Guidelines on Implementation of Coastal and Inland Shipping (Caboatge) Act 2003, NOTICE is hereby given as follows:

1. Pursuant to Section 22 of the Cabotage Act 2003, Vessels intended for use in the domestic coastal and inland waters trade are to be registered in the applicable Special Register for Cabotage Vessels and Ship Owning Companies engaged in Cabotage.
2. Section 22 (1) of the Cabotage Act provides that:  
*"Notwithstanding the provisions of any other laws and subject to section 47, every vessel intended for use under this Act shall be duly registered by the Registrar of Ships in the Special Register for vessels and Ship Owning Companies engaged in Cabotage and shall meet all the requirements for eligibility as set forth under the Act and the Merchant Shipping Act and its amendments to the extent that the said Merchant Shipping Act is not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act".*
3. The following Cabotage Registers are maintained in the Nigerian Ship Registry:
  - a. Special Register for Cabotage (Nigerian Wholly Owned Vessel);
  - b. Special Register for Cabotage (Bareboat Chartered Vessel);
  - c. Special Register for Cabotage (Joint Venture Owned Vessel);
  - d. Special Register for Cabotage (Fully Foreign Owned Vessel); and,
  - e. Special Register for Cabotage (Exempted Vessel).
4. The Certificate of Cabotage Registration/License shall be carried on board the vessel at all times.
5. That renewal of Cabotage operational Certificate/License shall be carried out annually.
6. All vessels operating in Nigerian waters with expired Cabotage Certificates of Registry are required to renew same.
7. **Further Take Notice** that all shipowners, ship operators, shipping agents, ship charterers including fishing vessel owners or operators and the public are hereby given three (3) months from the date of this publication to ensure strict compliance with this marine notice.
8. At the expiration of the Marine Notice, the Agency will notify International Oil Companies (IOCs) and relevant government authorities to ensure that vessels to be engaged for Cabotage trade present valid Cabotage Certificate prior to their engagement.

Ship owners, Masters, Agents and Charterers of ships are advised to note the foregoing and ensure strict compliance. Failure to comply with this notice will lead to detention of the vessel and payment of fine, as provided by the Cabotage Act.

All regulatory and enforcement bodies are implored to assist in ensuring compliance.

For further enquiries or information please contact:

**Registrar of Ships**

**Nigerian Ship Registration Office**

**Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency**

**Email:** [registrarofships@nimasa.gov.ng](mailto:registrarofships@nimasa.gov.ng), [nneka.obianyor@nimasa.gov.ng](mailto:nneka.obianyor@nimasa.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** +2348033030937, +2347055792985

SIGNED: **MANAGEMENT**