



NIUE SHIP REGISTRY

Website: www.niueship.com

Non-Convention Vessels [Circular NMC1.2023 (rev0)]

(A) PURPOSE:

To provide ship owners/managers/operators/ROs the relevant information and guidance relating to Niue-flagged Non-convention vessels.

(B) RELATED DOCUMENTS:

1. Niue [Non-Convention Regulations for Vessels of More Than 12 metres in Length](#), as amended, hereon referred to as the REGULATIONS
2. IACS [Rec No. 99](#) – Recommendations for the Safety of Cargo Vessels of less than Convention Size, as revised

(C) DEFINITIONS:

The following abbreviations stand for:

1. "SOLAS" – The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1974, as amended
2. "ICLL" – The International Convention on Load Lines (ICLL), 1966, as amended
3. "MARPOL" – The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973/78, as amended
4. "COLREG" – International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREG), 1972, as amended
5. "AFS" – International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships, 2001, as amended
6. "BWC" - International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004, as amended
7. "[RO](#)" – Recognized Organization as defined by IMO Resolution A.789(19)

The following term(s) shall mean:

8. "Administration" – Niue Ship Registry
9. "Non-convention vessels" – refer to vessels, whether self-propelled or non-self-propelled, whose length overall is 12 metres or over, and for which the provisions of the IMO Conventions such as AFS, BWC, COLREG, ICLL, MARPOL, and SOLAS do not apply. However, where certain provisions of IMO Conventions apply, those provisions shall be considered to be part of the REGULATIONS and shall consequently apply.

(D) APPLICATION:

1. Non-convention vessels as defined above with keel laid on or after 01 August 2012 are considered as "New" vessels and shall comply with the REGULATIONS.
2. The REGULATIONS do not apply to:
 - 1.1. Existing vessels;
 - 1.2. Vessels belonging to the State and used for non-commercial purposes, vessels of war and troop vessels;
 - 1.3. Passenger ships;
 - 1.4. Pleasure craft not engaged in trade;
 - 1.5. Fishing vessels;

- 1.6. Wooden vessels of primitive build; and
- 1.7. Vessels whose overall length is less than 12 metres.

(E) CONTENTS:

1. TREATMENT OF EXISTING VESSELS

For Existing Non-convention vessels, the Administration will accept the vessel as it is, wherever practicable, based on the requirements applied to the vessel at the time of construction, or IACS Rec No. 99, subject to the satisfactory survey of the RO.

2. EXEMPTIONS AND EQUIVALENTS

- 2.1. The Administration may grant exemption from any requirement in the REGULATIONS that it regards as either impracticable or unreasonable for any Non-convention vessel in view of the distance of the ship's area of operation from its base port, the type of ship, the weather conditions and the absence of general navigational hazards, provided that it complies with such other requirements which, in the opinion of the Administration, are adequate for the service for which it is intended.
- 2.2. The Administration may accept any type of appliance, apparatus, extinguishing medium or arrangement, that is not in accordance with the REGULATIONS if the Administration is satisfied that it is not less effective.

3. NON-CONVENTION STATUTORY CERTIFICATION

3.1. Non-convention Statutory Certificates, such as (but not limited to):

- 3.1.1. Non-Convention Load Line Certificate
- 3.1.2. Non-Convention Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate
- 3.1.3. Non-Convention Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate
- 3.1.4. Non-Convention Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificate

shall be issued by the RO and endorsed or renewed according to regulation 2.2 of the REGULATIONS.

Please contact the Administration at technical@niueship.com or call: +65 6226-2001 if clarification or further assistance is required.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Registrar
Niue Ship Registry