

## AQUATIC RESOURCES AUTHORITY OF PANAMA INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES AFFAIRS

### Technical Circular 054 – 2023

<b>For:</b>	Shipowners, Operators, Masters and Legal Representative / Resident Agents
<b>On Behalf:</b>	Technical Cooperation and International Fisheries Affairs
<b>Subject:</b>	Compliance's letter for vessel registration before the NPFC
<b>Ref.:</b>	ARAP/IFA/TC/054/2023

The Authority of Aquatic Resources of Panama, communicates to the Owners, Operators, Masters and Resident Agents that, due to the renewal of Panama as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) to the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC) for the period 2023-2024, vessels may carry out fishing related activities within the Convention Area of the NPFC; as long as the vessel is duly authorized and registered in the regional registry of vessels of the Commission.

Therefore, the Authority communicates the requirements and procedures to ensure that registered Panamanian flag vessels comply with the adopted conservation and management measures that must be implemented in accordance with the management and conservation measures of the North Pacific Fisheries Commission.

To ensure compliance and the guidelines described in this circular, attached you will find the documentation that supports this process, as well as the forms established, of mandatory use, for the notification and declaration of the activities to be carried out by the vessels, subsequent to their registration with this Commission:

- **Letter of Compliance;** letter of commitment to the requirements established by the NPFC Fisheries Commission in accordance with its management and conservation procedures and measures, which must be complied with by vessels authorized in the Commission's Regional Vessel Register during their operations. It must be submitted to the Authority together with the formal application for vessel registration, duly completed, signed and dated by the vessel's resident agent, to emails [vu@arap.gob.pa](mailto:vu@arap.gob.pa), [hsfs@arap.gob.pa](mailto:hsfs@arap.gob.pa). (**Annex 1**).
- **Form NPFC - Advance Notification of Transshipment Form,** which must be submitted to ARAP via email to [transshipment@arap.gob.pa](mailto:transshipment@arap.gob.pa), [transshipment\\_arap@gmail.com](mailto:transshipment_arap@gmail.com), and [transshipment@npfc.int](mailto:transshipment@npfc.int), at least 24 hours prior to transshipment activity. (**Annex 2**).
- **NPFC Form - Advance Notification Form for Other Transfers,** which must be submitted to ARAP via email at [transshipment@arap.gob.pa](mailto:transshipment@arap.gob.pa), [transshipment\\_arap@gmail.com](mailto:transshipment_arap@gmail.com), and [transshipment@npfc.int](mailto:transshipment@npfc.int), at least 24 hours prior to transshipment activity. **This form will be provided once it enters into force.**
- **NPFC Form - Transshipment Declaration Form;** it must be submitted to ARAP via e-mail [transshipment@arap.gob.pa](mailto:transshipment@arap.gob.pa), [transshipment\\_arap@gmail.com](mailto:transshipment_arap@gmail.com), and [transshipment@npfc.int](mailto:transshipment@npfc.int), no later than 48 hours after completion of the transshipment activity. (**Annex 3**).

- **Port Entry Notification Form**; to notify port entry authorized by ARAP, the same must be sent to ARAP via e-mail [transshipment@arap.gob.pa](mailto:transshipment@arap.gob.pa) y [transshipment@gmail.com](mailto:transshipment@gmail.com) , within 24 hours of arrival at the port of unloading. (**Annex 4**).
- **Port Discharge Report (F-INS-017-2020 Rev.02)**; for the declaration of unloading in port authorized by ARAP, it must be sent to ARAP by e-mail to [transshipment@arap.gob.pa](mailto:transshipment@arap.gob.pa) and [transshipment@gmail.com](mailto:transshipment@gmail.com), at the end of the unloading activities, no later than 24 hours after the unloading is completed. (**Annex 5**).

✓ **Important and Mandatory**

According to the aforementioned, it is necessary that all vessels of activities related to fishing of the Panamanian flag registered in the NPFC vessel registry comply with the provisions of this circular.

The non-compliance with this measure will be subject to the application of current regulations established by this Authority regarding sanctions.

**Annexes:** Compliance's Letter, Advance Notification and Declaration Transshipment Templates, Port Entry Notification and Port Discharge Report Templates.

*It is also important to note that by July 2023 new formats for notification and declaration of transshipments and notification of other transfer activities will be adopted, which will be provided by the Authority once they enter into force.*

**For more information about this Technical Circular, please contact:**

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