

## **AQUATIC RESOURCES AUTHORITY OF PANAMA INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES AFFAIRS**

### **Technical Circular 041 – 2022**

<b>To:</b>	Shipowners / Operators / Masters / Legal Representatives
<b>From:</b>	Directorate of Technical Cooperation and International Fisheries Affairs
<b>Tema:</b>	Panama's status with NEAFC Fisheries Commission
<b>Ref.:</b>	ARAP/IFA/TC/041/2022

The Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama (ARAP) informs Shipowners, Operators, Captains and Resident Agents that the Republic of Panama has renewed its status as a Cooperating, Active Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) to the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) for the year 2023, a decision confirmed by the Members of the Organization during the recent 41st Annual Meeting of the Commission, which was held from November 15 to 18, 2022.

In this regard, the notification and authorization of Panamanian flag refrigerated cargo vessels of international service that intend to carry out operations within the NEAFC Convention or Regulatory Area, with species managed by NEAFC, shall be subject to the corresponding compliance and registration, in accordance with the requirements established in the Commission's Control and Enforcement Scheme.

Therefore, ARAP will ensure that all vessels intending to enter the NEAFC Convention or Regulatory Area must comply with the conservation and management regulations and measures established and adopted by the Agency, through the Letter of Compliance adopted on the basis of the provisions of Resolution ADM/ARAP No. 002 of January 13, 2022, published in Official Gazette No. 29458-A.

#### **REGISTRATION OF SHIPS WITHIN AREA - LETTER OF COMPLIANCE**

Those vessels that have already submitted their duly signed Letter of Compliance will not have to submit it again; their current registration will be effective until December 31, 2023, as established in the Commission's control scheme.

**MUST SUBMIT NEW APPLICATION** via the Authority's single window duly signed for evaluation of registration and application for operations in 2023.

1. Vessels wishing to enter the registry for the first time.
2. Vessels that have made a change of name or ownership even if they maintain a valid Letter of Compliance.

#### **✓ Important and Mandatory**

All international service fishing vessels intending to operate in the Commission's regulatory area must fully comply with the NEAFC recommendations established under the Convention, in particular the Control and Enforcement Scheme. We emphasize that prior to commencing operations, they must be publicly notified and authorized on the Commission's website.

Vessels detected in activities in violation of the rules and recommendations established by the NEAFC shall be subject to the application of the regulations in force established by this Authority in sanctioning matters.

For more information on this Technical Circular, please contact:

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