**MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE**

### MSN 0407

#### Amendment 2/2022

CLEARANCE OF VESSELS FOR LOCAL VOYAGES AND REPORTING TO SIGNAL STATIONS WHEN ENTERING OR LEAVING PORTS

***This notice is hereby issued to all ship owners, small craft owners, fishing vessel owners, Masters, officers and other concerned parties.***

**1.0 Introduction**

1.1. It is the duty of vessel owners to take all reasonable steps to ensure that their vessels are operated in a safe manner (Merchant Shipping Act, 2003 section 296).

1.2. Measures to ensure that vessels are operated in a safe manner include among others, obtaining port clearance and reporting the start or completion of a local voyage by vessels.

**2.0 Guidance**

2.1 All vessels on local voyages are required to obtain clearance before going to sea or lake from a designated or recognized port or local landing site (mwalo). The Vessel Port Clearance (departure) form is the basic document to be duly filled in and signed jointly by the Master or skipper of the vessel and the Responsible Port Officer or landing site official. A copy of the port clearance form should remain with the responsible Port Officer or landing site official and the Master or skipper should retain another copy on board. A landing site official may use a register to record the necessary information contained in the Vessel Port Clearance (departure) form in lieu of this form.

2.2 Before entering or leaving the port area, the master of any ship must communicate to the appropriate signal station and report the vessel’s arrival or departure, giving the required information.

2.3 Vessel Port Clearance (departure) forms may be obtained from the Tanzania Port Authority (TPA) or TASAC Offices.

 **3.0 For Inquiries contact:**

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