



MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE MSN 3126

(This Merchant Shipping Notice is issued under Section 209 of the Merchant Shipping Act Cap 165 as amended by Act No. 6 of 2019)

APPROVAL TO COMMENCE FOUNDATION COURSE FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY.

Notice is hereby issued to all Ship owners, Operators, Maritime training institutes, Masters, Ship owners' representatives, Seafarers, Seafarers union, Seafarers recruitment and placement agencies, and Maritime stakeholders.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The United Republic of Tanzania (URT) is a member State to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) since 1974. IMO is the United Nations specialised agency with responsibility for the safety and security of shipping and prevention of marine and atmospheric pollution by ships.

The Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC) is responsible for overseeing maritime safety, security, and marine environment protection, among other functions. TASAC is also responsible for overseeing the training and certification of seafarers are carried out in accordance with the requirements of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended, and the Merchant Shipping (Training, Certification and Manning) Regulations, 2016 as amended.

TASAC as the designated Maritime Administration of Tanzania, has reviewed and approved the curriculum submitted by the Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI) for the Foundation Course leading to the Certificate of Competency (CoC),

The Foundation Course serves as a bridging program designed to fulfil the requirements of the Certificate of Competency (CoC) in accordance with the Tanzania Maritime Qualification Code, ensuring candidates acquire the prerequisite knowledge and competencies necessary for progression into formal CoC training and certification.



2.0 PURPOSE

This Merchant Shipping Notice is issued to inform maritime stakeholders of TASAC's approval for the commencement of the Foundation Course at DMI. The course is designed to bridge prospective candidates into CoC in-class training, ensuring compliance with STCW requirements and national regulations.

3.0 SCOPE OF APPLICATION

This Merchant Shipping Notice shall be applicable to the following;

- a) Dar es salaam Maritime Institute as approved Maritime Education Training Institution to conduct the course;
- b) Seafarers seeking entry qualifications into Certificate of Competency programs;
- c) Ship owners and operators employing certified seafarers;
- d) Maritime Education Training Fund (METFUND); and
- e) Other maritime stakeholders concerned with training and certification.

4.0 LEGAL FOUNDATION

This Merchant Shipping Notice is issued in accordance to the following legal basis;

- a) The International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended;
- b) The Merchant Shipping Act, Cap 165 as amended;
- c) The Merchant Shipping (Seafarers Training and Certification) Regulations, 2016 as amended; and
- d) The Tanzania Maritime Qualifications Code (TMQ Code).

5.0 MARITIME TRAINING INSTITUTIONS

Only approved Maritime Training Institution shall:

- a) Conduct the Foundation Course strictly in accordance with the TASAC-approved curriculum;



- b) Ensure instructors are adequately trained and competent to deliver the course content;
- c) Maintain records of enrolment and delivery for audit and compliance purposes.

6.0 GUIDANCE FOR COMPLIANCE

- The Foundation Course shall serve as a prerequisite for entry into CoC programs.
- Records of training delivery will be subject to TASAC audit.
- Non-compliance with approved curriculum delivery may result in administrative action under the Merchant Shipping Regulations.

7.0 PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

Failure to comply with this Notice may result in administrative action in accordance with the Merchant Shipping (Training, Certification and Manning) Regulations, 2016.

8.0 EFFECTIVE DATE

This Merchant Shipping Notice (MSN 3126) came into force on the **14th July 2026**, the date of TASAC's approval for commencement of the Foundation Course at DMI.

9.0 CONTACT INFORMATION

Any information concerning this Merchant Shipping Notice should be addressed in writing to the Registrar through the address below:

Director General,
Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC),
Golden Jubilee Tower, 5th Floor – Wing B, Ohio Street,
P. O. Box 989, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
Email: dq@tasac.go.tz or info@tasac.go.tz
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