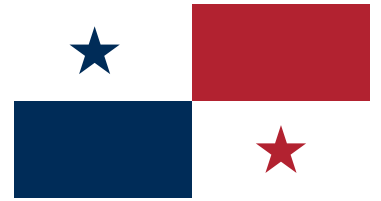




UPDATE



President Cortizo Cohen reasserts Panama's commitment to ocean and environmental protection

Decisions will be taken to preserve life in the ocean will be taken at the VIII International Conference 'Our Ocean' 2023.

The President signed the Executive Decree that creates the 'Banco Volcan Protected Area' in the Panamanian Caribbean, with which Panama will be conserving 54.33% of its exclusive economic zone.

The President of the Republic, Laurentino Cortizo Cohen, inaugurated the VIII 'Our Ocean' 2023 Conference, that brings together March 2 and 3, representatives of governments, private sector, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, academics, and scientists, to reach a consensus on actions aimed at guaranteeing responsible management of marine resources.

"We are honored to host the eighth edition of this important international conference, where world's countries hold frank conversations aiming at committing ourselves to actions for the preservation and strengthening of life in the ocean," said President Cortizo Cohen at the opening ceremony.

The President said that during these two days of dialogue "we will renew our commitments with new approaches, to continue the fight for the protection of our ocean, which is the basis for the survival of the planet and the life of the more than 8 billion human beings that inhabit it."

"Panama's commitment to life on the planet is real, unequivocal and forceful, as demonstrated by the decisions we have taken as a country. We are together with Bhutan, Suriname, Comoros, Gabon, Guyana, Madagascar and Niue in the group of the eight carbon negative countries in the world. During our administration, we have assumed the commitments of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals," Cortizo Cohen said.

He also noted that the expansion of marine protected areas has been a priority, especially the protection and connectivity of the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor, working in coordination with neighboring countries for the promotion of the transnational protection of marine resources and development of actions against illegal fishing.

The chief executive highlighted that, by 2021, Panama achieved the protection of more than 30% of its oceans, meeting the goal of the 30x30 initiative ahead of schedule.

Cortizo Cohen also called to agree on shared commitments, to set purposes and effective strategies, not only in the political aspect, but also in the fulfilment of actions and financial support that constitute an investment in the future of the ocean and in the future of life on the planet.

"Panama is always ready to actively participate for the survival of our ocean, our planet and humanity," he said.

As a further demonstration of the Republic of Panama's commitment to the environment and the ocean, and within the framework of this important event, President Cortizo Cohen signed the Executive Decree that creates the Banco Volcán Protected Area, in the Panamanian Caribbean, thus increasing its surface area to 93,390 kilometers; six times its original size. In this way, Panama will be conserving 54.33% of its exclusive economic zone.

The 'Our Ocean' 2023 Conference creates the opportunity for Panama to demonstrate its leadership in the field of oceans, seek and create strategic links that allow to continue promoting initiatives that have made Panama a globally recognized "Blue Leader". This meeting also allows direct dialogue with financial organizations seeking to invest or support projects that result in positive changes for the planet.

Panama has been recognized as a "Blue Leader", a title that is only awarded to countries that have achieved the goal of protecting 30% or more of their oceans, an achievement that Panama reached before the target date of 2030.

This conference will address six areas of action in the panels: Marine Protected Areas; Maritime Security; Blue Economy; Sustainable Fisheries; Climate Change and Marine Pollution.

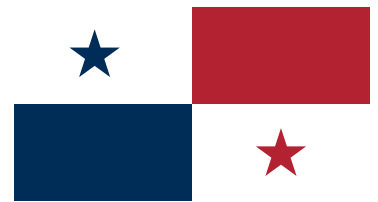
During the Conference, side events, such as the Youth Leadership Summit, to inspire, inform and empower young people to build holistic solutions that better balance the needs of society, industry and the marine environment.

The opening of this event was attended by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Janaina Tewaney Mencomo; the Minister of Environment, Milciades Concepción; María Eugenia López Arias, President of the Supreme Court of Justice; Juan Monterrey, Executive Director of Leadership; John Kerry, United States Special Presidential Climate Envoy, among other personalities and authorities.





UPDATE



The AMP's General Directorate of Merchant Marine receives ISO 9001:2015 certification



The Panama Maritime Authority's General Directorate of Merchant Marine that oversees the Ship Registry changed its certification body as part of the improvements to the quality management system and update of its business model, based on a process approach and strengthening aspects such as customer satisfaction, risk analysis and production indicators or KPIs, with a focus on continuous improvement and quality policy.

Following the requirements of the certification company Bureau Veritas regarding the process of changing the certification body, "we can say, with great satisfaction, that we have exceeded the expectations expected by the certifier," said the AMP.

In a ceremony attended by the Heads of Departments of the DGMM, the Manager of Bureau Veritas, Jose Chong, handed over the ISO 9001:2015 certificate to the Director General of Merchant Marine, Rafael Cigarruista.

Being the re-engineering of the Ship Registry, one of the pillars of this Administration, the DGMM changed from procedures to processes, adopting risk measurement, efficiency, effectiveness of processes, and improvements in customer service in the operations of the Panamanian Registry.

The review of the conformity and effectiveness of the management system in two phases, which included a documentary review and the visit of the auditors of the company Bureau Veritas, were carried out to achieve this objective.

The ISO 9001:2015 certification covers the main offices of the Directorate General of Merchant Marine, the Office of the Permanent Mission of Panama to the International Maritime Organization, the Segumar offices in Miami, Singapore, Greece, Tokyo, Seoul, Imabari, Houston, Dubai, Istanbul, London; these the last 5 offices receiving for the first time this certification under ISO 9001:2015.

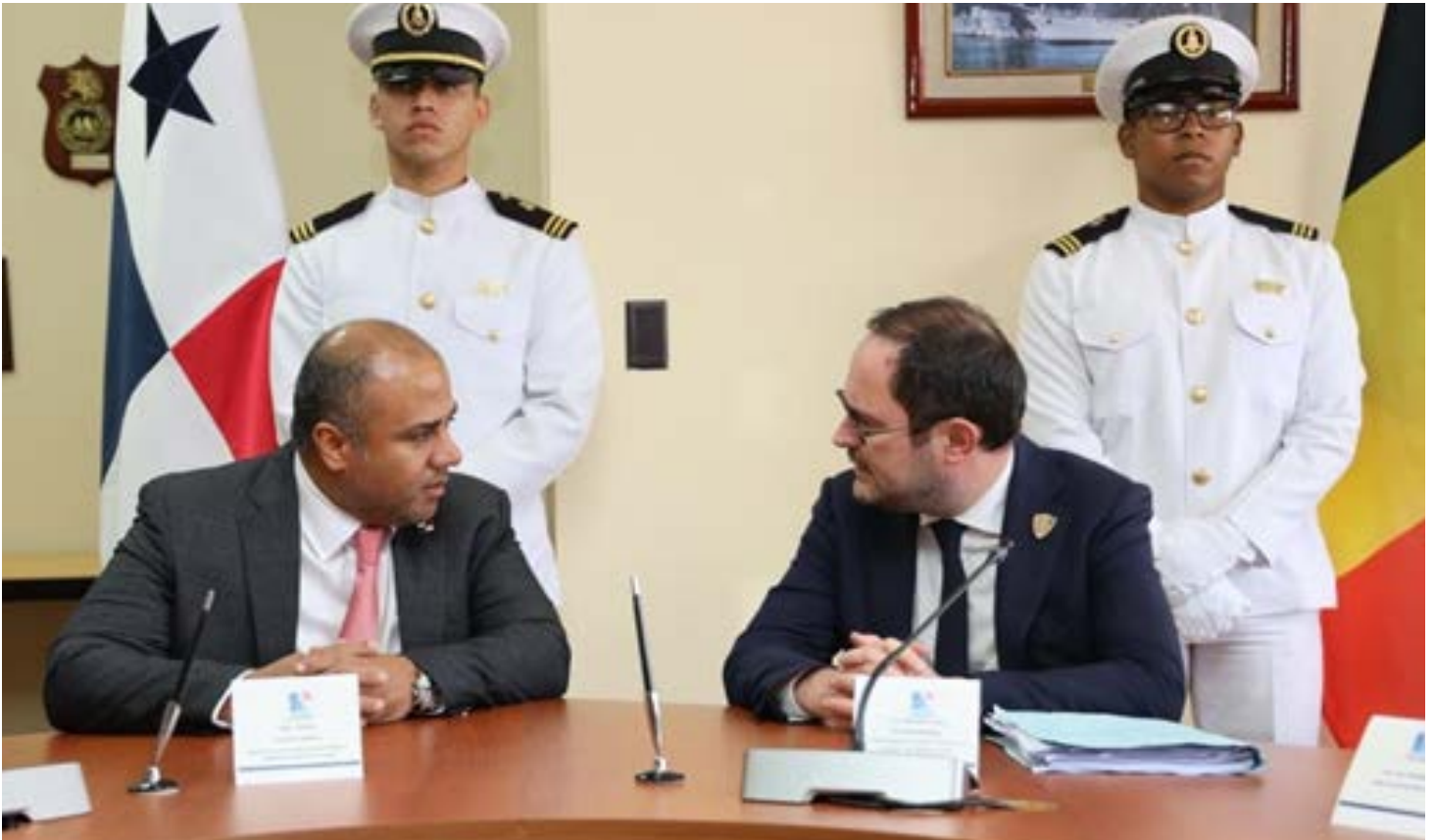
The Merchant Marine Inspectorates in the ports of Manzanillo, Colon Container Terminal and Cristobal, on the Atlantic side, and the Ports of Balboa, Vacamonte, and Puerto Panama, on the Pacific coast, were included in this audit.

This certification corresponds to the period from 2 January 2023 to 1 January 2026.

MACN
MARITIME ANTI-CORRUPTION NETWORK
2023 Certificate of Membership
Panama Maritime Authority

Panama Maritime Authority has been a valuable member of MACN since 2020 and, by its membership, commits to The Network's vision of a maritime industry free of corruption.

The Republic of Panama and The Kingdom of Belgium Strengthen their links in the maritime area by signing 3 letters of intent.



The Republic of Panama, through the Minister of Maritime Affairs, Noriel Arauz, and the Kingdom of Belgium, represented by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice and the North Sea of Belgium, Vincent Van Quickenborne, signed 3 letters of intent to strengthen their ties in the maritime area. Minister Arauz, thanked the Kingdom of Belgium for the support offered to the Panamanian state, especially in the maritime sector, by providing us with their help so that in September 2017, the application of the Republic of Panama to the European Commission was presented, in order to start the recognition process for the titles of competence issued by the Panama Maritime Authority (AMP), to be recognized by the European Union (E.U.).

This process is about to be a reality, thanks to the usual support, which will mark a milestone in Panamanian maritime history, since it will be the consolidation of efforts to demonstrate to the world that Panamanian seafarers have the skills and the necessary vocation required to be recognized by the European Union, which will be of great benefit since they will be offered greater job opportunities on board the European Union flag ships. The Kingdom of Belgium is one of the 20 main commercial nations in the world and Panama is the country with the largest Ship Registry World Wide.

They have been and will continue to be friend countries and commercial partners par excellence, which is reinforced much more, with this important step. With the signing of these Letters of Intent, Panama and Belgium, countries that are part of the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) will strengthen their good relations in areas such as:

- a. The fight against organized crime and illicit drug smuggling, through the exchange of information.
- b. Mutual recognition of maritime training courses.
- c. In maritime training for recognition and action on criminal or illegal acts in maritime transport.

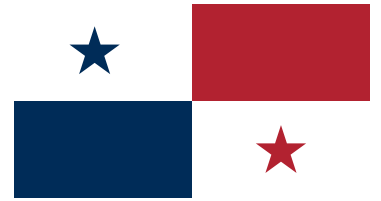
In addition, the occasion was propitious for the Director of the General Directorate of Seafarers (DGGM) of the AMP, Captain Juan Maltez, to deliver a note detailing the 2 groups of factual evidence on the measures that this administration has carried out, with a view to the process of recognition of the Republic of Panama as a third country before the European Commission, so that the certificates of competence issued to Seafarers by Panama are recognized by the Member States of the European Union, in accordance with Regulation 1/10 of the International Convention on Training Standards, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers of 1978 and its amendments (STCW Convention of 1978 and its amendments), a process that has been carried out in compliance with the DIRECTIVE 2008/106/CE, as amended.

This letter was also sent to the Deputy Director General of the General Directorate of Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) of the European Commission (EU), Maja Bakran Marcich as a summary of the progress made by Panama for its recognition. It is important to mention that both sets of evidence are in the process of verification by the European Commission.

This event was held at the International Maritime University of Panama (UMIP), and was attended by the Belgian Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Justice and North Sea, Vincent Van Quickenborne, the Belgian Ambassador to Panama, H.E. Guy Sevrin and representatives of the Belgian government; on behalf of Panama, attended the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Republic of Panama to the Kingdom of Belgium, H.E. Yavel Francis Lanuza, the Rector of the UMIP, Victor Luna, the Minister of Maritime Affairs, Noriel Arauz, the Deputy Administrator of the AMP, Elvia Bustavino, the Director of the General Directorate of Seafarers (DGGM), Captain Juan Maltez and the distinguished representatives of the AMP and the UMIP.



UPDATE



Control and monitoring of the Panamanian fleet are its commitment to compliance

The Panamanian Maritime Authority, through the Directorate General of Merchant Marine (DGMM) maintains a permanent monitoring and follow-up of its fleet.

More than 6,000 vessels flying the Panama flag must report through the onboard positioning equipment of the Long Range Identification System (LRIT).

By the end of 2022, the Panamanian fleet increased its reporting percentage (compliance) to 93%, compared to international standards ranging from 85% to 95%, which is considered the best.

All Panama-flagged vessels must report 4 positions per day, to their control and monitoring center as this commitment stems from the SOLAS Convention, Chapter V, Regulation 19/1.

The Panamanian Registry will continue to implement actions in 2023 for improving its compliance. The improvement of this reporting process, that involves different actors, will allow the Panamanian fleet to achieve the best percentage of compliance and maintains the highest international standards.

The Directorate General of Merchant Marine's Control and Monitoring section has the infrastructure, technology, and qualified human resources to monitor all vessels registered in Panama and see they comply with the LRIT standard, as well as the Automatic Identification System (AIS), referential equipment for the positioning of vessels.

Any vessel that fails to report its positions for more than 24 hours on the LRIT platform, or fails to comply with international conventions, or with the rules established by the Panama Ship Registry, will be subject to an internal investigation by the Panamanian Administration that could open various processes, including the possible cancellation of the Registry.

The Panama Ship Registry continues to implement measures for maintaining its high standard of compliance with the international maritime conventions and ensure that all vessels registered in Panama comply with international regulations regarding the financing of terrorism, money laundering or other illicit activities that affect the interests of the international maritime industry.



Control and monitoring (LRIT Reporting Data)

✓ **6,154 ships monitored**

As per SOLAS -Chapter V- Regulation 19/1
Long Range Identification and Tracking of Ships

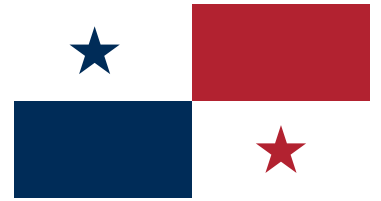
✓ **93% of compliance**
5,703 ships

✓ **Weekly screening**
Entire fleet under continuous
control & monitoring

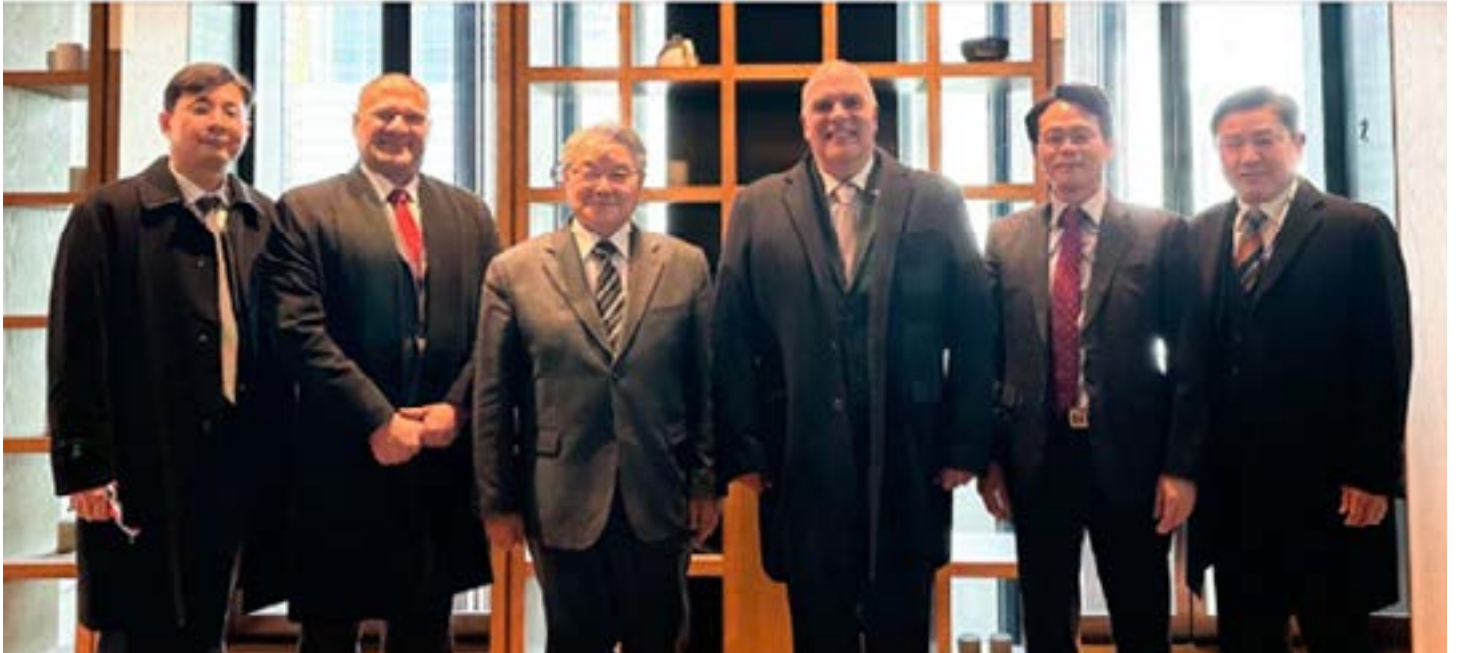
✓ **Compliance standard**
85% - 95%



UPDATE



Panama and the Korean Ship Owners' Association strengthen cooperation



The Vice President of the Korean Shipowners Association, Mr. CH Yang, held a meeting recently with the Panamanian Ambassador in Korea Athanasio Kosmas, and with the director of the Technical Office of Segumar Sergio Lopez, to strengthen maritime cooperation.

At the end of January 2023, Panama leads the Korean market by flagging 43% of its fleet, representing 27.7M GT and maintaining a cordial and close relationship with the Korean shipowners is paramount for Panama. Vessels owned by Korean shipowners or vessels of Korean interests represent the fifth largest user of the Panama Canal.

"Both nations maintain important trade relations, based on the maritime business and logistics handled from the Isthmus, where different Korean companies carry out large-scale government projects," Yang said.

The Panamanian embassy and the Korean Shipowners' Association will hold regular meetings to revise and strengthen bilateral maritime cooperation.



PANAMA
MARITIME AUTHORITY

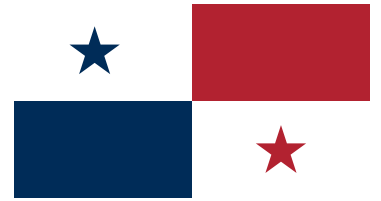
Panama Registry Benefits

Maintain close relations that allow free and unimpeded access of Panama-flagged vessels for cargo traffic to and from China.

#SteeringYourWay



UPDATE



Panama works closely with the Recognized Organizations.



The Panama Maritime Authority (AMP), through the Directorate General of Merchant Marine, guarantees the services to merchant marine vessels to ensure strict compliance with the legislation in force and with the legal rules of navigation, maritime safety, protection, and prevention of pollution of the marine environment for vessels operating in jurisdictional waters of the Republic of Panama or internationally.

The Recognized Organizations (ROs) operate within this frame, and are the private entities authorized by the flag administration, the Panama Maritime Authority, to guarantee, on their behalf, the compliance of vessels with respect to navigation and maritime safety regulations, and pollution prevention, in accordance with national and international legislation.

The AMP, to fulfill its commitment, held the first reinforcement workshop for auditors of Recognized Organizations (ROs), aiming at reinforcing the knowledge of the group of auditors of the

Administration, broadening, and sharing their experiences on the completed cycle of audits, in addition to reviewing and sharing the new guidelines in accordance with the RO Procedure Manual and the RO Code. To date, the AMP has conducted 15 audits of duly authorized Recognized Organizations, which is equivalent to 48% of the progress of the audit program.

Panama complies with the requirements established by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) through Resolution MSC.349 (92) of 21 June 2013 "Code for Recognized Organizations" (RO CODE) and Resolution A.1070 (28) of 4 December 2013 "Code for the Implementation of IMO Instruments".

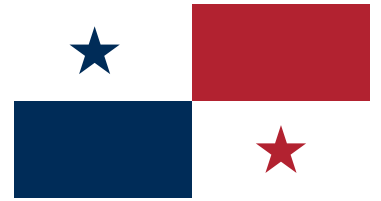
The audit program conducted by the Republic of Panama, as a Flag State, will continue during 2023, to implement ameliorations to the monitoring, follow-up, and supervision program, and ensure the continuous improvement of ROs working with Panama.

Electronic registration with just a *Digital Token*





UPDATE



Segumar increases issuance of electronic certificates

The Panama Ship Registry, through Segumar's international technical offices and headquarters, had increased the issuance of technical certificates, providing technical support in real time, in countries where its most important clients are concentrated. These documents are issued with reference to future Maritime Conventions, Codes and Regulations for the benefit of customers, and the compliance of its fleet.

By the end of 2022, Segumar had issued 37,708 certificates, 6,667 approvals/endorsements and 18,530 authorizations, reaching a total production of 62,905 documents, of which 52,512 were certificates issued electronically, increasing the production of the E-Segumar platform by 7,818 more than in 2021. This is fundamental for transparency, modernization of the service, and quality attention to more than 10,000 customers served during that period.

The main office in Panama issued 18,130 technical certificates and Segumar's international technical offices issued 32,382 documents, thanks to technological innovation, the commitment of its human resources, and the re-engineering of the Panamanian Registry that focus on the satisfaction of our customers. "Our system is being designed to be a friendly and simple experience for our customers," said Registry officials.

In addition, 57 certificates of approval were issued to suppliers, as a commitment of this Administration to the maritime industry nationally and internationally.

The Panamanian flag provides efficient and effective customer service through its international technical offices located in Tokyo and Imabari (Japan), Piraeus (Greece), Seoul and Busan (South Korea), Manila (Philippines), Singapore, Shanghai (China), Hong Kong, Dubai, London (UK), Istanbul (Turkey), Houston and Miami (USA), in addition to its headquarters in Panama.

Segumar international offices, within its maritime services, issue 19 types of certificates; of which 12 are electronic, streamlining the various procedures, keeping track and in compliance with the fleet in terms of financial guarantees of MLC to 96% until December 2022.

Segumar Panama said that within its objectives and projects for 2023, is improving the processes of commercial and specialized attention, in faithful compliance with international requirements, and the redesign and technological expansion of E-Segumar for the necessary technical assistance in all processes related to the improvement of competitiveness, 24/7 attention.

The Panamanian Registry continues its modernization process in 2023 to maintain continuous improvement of quality of service and international compliance, when it is expected that 100% of the documents issued will be electronic, and thus meet 100% of the requirements through the electronic platform of the entity.

The Directorate General of Seafarers watches over compliance of seafarers' labor rights

The Panama Maritime Authority (AMP)'s General Directorate of Seafarers has created mechanisms to facilitate the placement of Panamanian seafarers. The AMP has made available to companies with international experience, Panamanian qualified labor that meets the needs of the global maritime sector's challenges.

During the current administration, the AMP through the Directorate General of Seafarers has repatriated 1,864 crew members of various nationalities, on Panama-flagged vessels in different parts of the world, allowing them to return home. The return of seafarers to their homes with the payment of their salaries, ensuring due compliance with national and international regulations that protect labor and social rights, is important for their well-being.

Seafarers form a fundamental part of the maritime industry and global economy, as they strengthen the commercial efforts and business strategies of shipowners and operators. The main function of the Department of Maritime Labor Affairs of the General Directorate of Seafarers, is to carry out various inspections on the working, living and accommodation conditions

of crew members on board Panamanian vessels, to ensure strict compliance with national laws and international conventions that protect human resources, ratified by the Republic of Panama regarding work at sea and in navigable waterways.

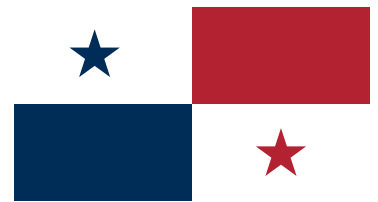
The Administration has recovered **\$ 15,763,052.24** in concept of unpaid wages to seafarers sailing on Panama-flagged vessels; \$ 5,315,909.99 corresponding to 2022.

The Directorate of Seafarers receives and attends labor complaints and intervenes in conciliations and repatriation of crew members. Inspections continue on domestic and international service vessels of the Panamanian Registry, in compliance with the provisions of Decree Law No. 8 of 26 February 1998 and Executive Decree No. 86 of 22 February 2013.

The Directorate General of Seafarers of the Panama Maritime Authority watches over labor rights of seafarers are respected, implementing procedures to resolve quickly and effectively the situations affecting seafarers, guaranteeing a safe support as a serious and responsible Ship Registry.



UPDATE



Panama and the Philippines strengthen relations at Philippines Maritime Expo 2023

The Republic of Panama, through the Panama Maritime Authority (AMP), participated in the 'Philippines Maritime Expo 2023: Flag State and Shipbuilders Convention', that brought together the main shipping registries in the world, as well as prominent exhibitors from the world maritime industry, shipyards, shipowners, technology, and maritime safety.

The purpose of the event was acquiring and expanding of knowledge about maritime regulations for the registration of vessels, the maritime infrastructures of the Flag State and the regulations established by the IMO, said the AMP. It also granted the opportunity for owners and operators in the various sectors of the maritime industry to meet with service providers, facilitating a venue to showcase products and services for both local and international participants and stakeholders.

The Minister of Maritime Affairs and Administrator of the AMP, Noriel Arauz highlighted the maritime trade relationship between Panama and the Philippines, which dates back more than 450 years, taking into consideration that in 1571 the route of the "Manila Galleon" was the first maritime route trade in history, linking Manila with American ports, including Panama.

"Today more than ever it is necessary to recognize the contribution of the Philippines to maritime trade and especially to the maritime progress of Panama and our Registry of Ships.

Please receive my sincere thanks to the entire Philippines country, we are sister nations and allies, strengthened every day by the power of our historic maritime relationship," said Arauz.

The AMP's Director of Seafarers, Capt. Juan Maltez, explained the different services provided by the institution, which recently celebrated its 25th anniversary., including the administration of the Panama-flagged merchant fleet and the training of seafarers sailing its ships.

The stand of the AMP together with the Panamanian Embassy in the Philippines, attracted the attention of businessmen, students (cadets), Panamanian personnel from the Manila Regional Documentation Office (ORD) as well as Filipino collaborators, where they offered information to obtain Panamanian licenses, certifications for ships, accreditations of Maritime Training Centers (CFM) and Medical Centers Authorized by Panama, as well as the SEGUMAR division in ORD Manila and information on the registration of ships and how to comply with all the maritime rules and provisions in accordance with international maritime regulations.

The AMP said that participating in the fair was an opportunity to increase the visibility of the services it provides while reinforcing its presence in the Philippines, a world reference country in the training of seamen and seafarers.

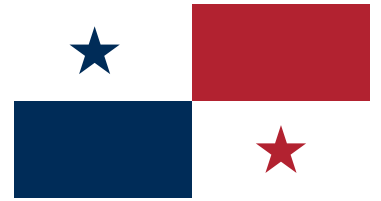


**Our world
is changing**
so are we!

**Ask about our incentives
for Eco-friendly vessels**



UPDATE



Merchant Marine Circulars - February 2023

Title	Number	Update
Carriage of Immersion Suits carries onboard Panamanian Flagged Vessels.	MMC-144	February 2023
Authorized Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC) transiting High Risk Areas (Online application).	MMC-245	February 2023
List of Approved P&I Club/Insurers.	MMC-202	February 2023
Authorized service providers for maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear.	MMC-258	February 2023

Merchant Marine Notice - February 2023

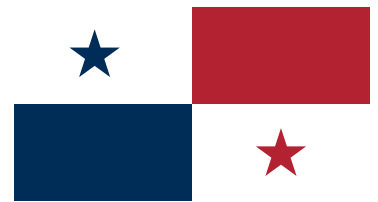
Title	Number	Update
Panama Flag Annual Safety Inspection (ASI) - Fire Safety and ISM Questionnaire.	MMN-01/2023	February 2023

PANAMA
MARITIME AUTHORITY

Specialized Technical Assistance



UPDATE



Our 53 consular offices and 22 International Technical offices are 100% operational

24/7



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