



# TUVALU SHIP REGISTRY

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## MARINE CIRCULAR

### MC-4/2026/1

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**FOR:** Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters, Ship Officers and ROs

**SUBJECT: GUIDELINE OF INF CLASS 1 SHIPS (CARRIAGE OF PACKAGED RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS)**

#### DEFINITIONS:

The following abbreviations stand for:

- “INF Code” – International Code for the Safe Carriage of Packaged Irradiated Nuclear Fuel, Plutonium and High-Level Radioactive Wastes on Board Ships
- “IMDG Code” – International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code
- “RO” – Recognized Organization as defined by MSC.349(92) / MEPC.237(65)
- “SMS” – Safety Management System as defined by the ISM Code

The Administration means the Tuvalu Ship Registry.

#### PURPOSE:

This marine circular provides flag State instructions and guidance for Tuvalu-flagged ships assigned INF Class 1 notation under the INF Code.

#### REFERENCES:

- (a) International Code for the Safe Carriage of Packaged Irradiated Nuclear Fuel, Plutonium and High-Level Radioactive Wastes on Board Ships (INF Code).
- (b) IMDG Code, as amended.
- (c) CSS Code, as amended.
- (d) SOLAS 1974, as amended – Chapter VII, Regulation 16.

#### APPLICATION:

This marine circular applies to Tuvalu-flagged ships assigned INF Class 1 notation intending to carry packaged Class 7 radioactive materials.

#### CONTENTS:

##### 1. GENERAL

The INF Code establishes mandatory safety standards for the carriage of packaged Class 7 radioactive materials by sea. For INF Class 1 ships, the Code provides functional requirements to be applied to the satisfaction of the Administration, taking into account the nature of the cargo, its packaging.

## **2. REQUIREMENTS**

### **2.1 INF Code Chapter 3.1 – Fire Safety Measures (INF Class 1)**

For INF Class 1 ships, the fire safety measures shall be applied on the same basis as for INF Class 2, unless the RO, having regard to the specific cargo characteristics and the vessel's operational area, justifies and recommends that certain measures are not necessary and not practicable.

### **2.2 INF Code Chapter 4.1.3 – Temperature Control of Cargo Spaces**

Upon compliance with chapter 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 of the INF Code, essential items for the operation of the ventilation or refrigeration system, including fans, compressors, heat exchangers and cooling water supply, shall be provided in duplicate for each cargo space, and suitable spare parts shall be available. No additional requirements are imposed.

### **INF Code Chapter 8 – Radiological Protection**

For packaged Class 7 radio materials carried as INF cargo, the Administration instructs the RO to verify, as applicable to the specific cargo and arrangement, that:

- 2.2.1** IMDG Class 7 documentation, marking/placarding, segregation and shipboard emergency arrangements are in place; and
- 2.2.2** operational controls for restricted access, signs and procedures are established in the vessel's SMS and Shipboard Emergency Plan (in accordance with Chapter 10 of the INF Code), and that any additional precautions stated in the shipper's declaration are addressed.

## **3. REVIEW AND VERIFICATION**

Compliance with the INF Code shall be verified by a RO acting on behalf of the Administration. Surveys, certification and endorsements shall be carried out in accordance with the INF Code.

## **4. ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE**

The Administration draws attention to the interface between the INF Code and the IMDG Code, the Code of Safe Practice for Cargo Stowage and Securing (CSS Code), and relevant IMO resolutions related to emergency preparedness and response.

## **5. DOCUMENTATION ONBOARD**

Ships shall carry onboard, as applicable:

- A valid International Certificate of Fitness for the Carriage of INF Cargo;
- An approved Shipboard Emergency Plan;
- Relevant IMDG Code documentation and shipper's declarations;
- SMS procedures and crew training records related to INF cargo.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Registrar  
Tuvalu Ship Registry