



TUVALU SHIP REGISTRY

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MARINE CIRCULAR

MC-5/2016/1

04/2026

FOR: Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters, Ship Officers, Classification Societies, Port State Control Officers

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATES FOR VESSELS

DEFINITIONS:

The following abbreviations stand for:

- “PSC” – Port State Control
- “RO” – Recognized Organization as defined by IMO Resolution A.789(19).

The term “Administration” shall mean the Tuvalu Ship Registry.

PURPOSE:

The Administration shall be progressively moving towards full implementation of electronic certificates commencing from January 2019.

For electronic certificates issued by the Administration to seafarers, please refer to Reference (a) below.

REFERENCES:

- (a) Tuvalu Marine Circular MC-3/2015/1 – Electronic Certificates of Endorsement
- (b) IMO Circular FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2/Corr.1 – Guidelines for the use of Electronic Certificates

APPLICATION:

This marine circular applies to certificates issued by the Administration to Tuvalu flagged vessels.

CONTENTS:

The implementation of electronic certificates aims to reduce the administrative burden on other Administrations, PSC officers, seafarers etc. caused by the reliance of traditional paper certificates, thereby minimising delays to the operations of Tuvalu flagged vessels and creating a greener environment.

1. All electronic certificates issued by this Administration contains all features in accordance to IMO Circular FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2/Corr.1.
2. Original hardcopy certificates previously issued by this Administration before 01 January 2019 shall remain valid and shall continue to be carried on board until such time they are replaced by electronic certificates.
3. To verify the registration of vessels holding original hardcopy certificates, please key in the vessel's Official Number in the online verification system at <https://tvship.com/verifyreg>

4. To verify individual original hardcopy certificates, please email a copy of the certificate to support@tvship.com to request for authentication.
5. The Administration has no objection for ROs to implement and issue electronic certificates on behalf of Tuvalu so long as the certificates issued contain all the features in accordance to IMO Circular FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2/Corr.1, and there are instructions provided for verifying the validity and authenticity of the electronic certificates.
6. All electronic certificates issued by this Administration or by ROs that comply with IMO Circular FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2/Corr.1 shall be considered as valid in accordance with all applicable international instruments that Tuvalu is a party to.
7. A copy of this Marine Circular shall be kept on board to facilitate the acceptance of electronic certificates by other relevant authorities.
8. Methods for verification of Electronic Certificates
 - 8.1. Entering the unique certificate number found at the online verification system at <https://tvship.com/verifyreg> shall result in a copy of the electronic certificate being displayed on the screen if authenticated.



TUVALU SHIP REGISTRY

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRY

Issued under the provisions of Merchant Shipping
(Amendment No. 2) Act 2004

COR18R10815NOR



- 8.2. Scanning the Quick Response (QR) Code shall result in a copy of the electronic certificate being displayed on the screen if authenticated.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Registrar
Tuvalu Ship Registry