



TUVALU SHIP REGISTRY

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MARINE CIRCULAR

MC-11/2025/1

12/2025

FOR: Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, and Agents

SUBJECT: AGE RESTRICTION OF 25 YEARS

DEFINITIONS:

For the purpose of this circular:

- “Administration” – Tuvalu Ship Registry
- “Vessel” – any ship intended to be registered under the Tuvalu Flag.
- “Agent” – any party acting on behalf of a Shipowner / Manager in relation to registration matters.

PURPOSE:

This circular notifies all stakeholders that, with effect from **01 January 2026**, the Administration will not accept any application to register a vessel aged 25 years and above.

APPLICATION:

This circular applies to vessels that have yet to obtain Tuvalu registration (Provisional or Permanent).

CONTENTS:

1. With effect from **01 January 2026**, the Administration will not accept any registration enquiries or applications for vessels aged 25 years and above.
2. A vessel's age shall be determined based on the year of build as stated in official documentation (e.g., Certificate of Registry, Class Certificate, Builder's Certificate, and/or existing statutory certificates).
3. Notwithstanding the above, the Administration may, at its sole discretion, consider exceptions where the average age of the shipowner's fleet is less than 25 years, or where there are other merits.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Registrar
Tuvalu Ship Registry