

SHIP REGISTRATION SERVICES IN MAURITIUS



Ship Registration Services in Mauritius is regulated by the Mauritius Merchant Shipping Act 2007 and the Mauritius Shipping Act (Amended) 1992 which were largely inspired and modelled according to the British Merchant Shipping Act. The registration procedures involve the formation of a Global Business Licence entity (“GBL”) licensed by the Financial Services Commission (“FSC”) as a Ship Management Company and the registration of the vessel itself with the Ministry of Fisheries & Shipping. This type of company can be used for various shipping activities such as fishing, transportation, etc.

Mauritius has ratified most of the international conventions on maritime safety, prevention of pollution, training and certification of seafarers. Mauritius can be said to be a ‘safe harbour’ for ship registration with an international perspective.

Benefits of Ship Registration In Mauritius

Ship registration does not require the Ship to be physically present in Mauritius or to use the Mauritian Port

If ever a Ship Owner wants to use Mauritius as base, it has access to a strategic location in terms of geography and time zones

Mauritius is already a member to most of the international conventions on maritime safety

No income tax for all personnel working on board the vessel and no restrictions on the nationality of the crew

Ship’s stores, consumables, spare parts and bunkering are exempted from customs and excise duties if purchased locally

No tax on freight earnings, no withholding tax on dividends, no capital gains tax upon the sale or transfer of a vessel or of the shares in a shipping company, no estate duty payable on the inheritance of shares in a shipping company

The GBL can register a foreign Ship under the Mauritian Flag where the Ship is bareboat chartered to it for a period of not less than 12 months

It is the ideal vehicle for those who want to fish in the Indian Ocean, keeping the registry in a jurisdiction near to that of their catches

It is important to note that the objectives of the GBL should be to register the ship under the Mauritian Flag but shipping activities must exclusively be outside Mauritius

Registration Formalities

Type of Registration

Permanent Registration

Permanent Registration is where a ship is permanently registered after fulfilment of all the registration procedures. The Director of Shipping will then issue a Certificate of Registration.

Provisional Registration

Provisional Registration of a Vessel may be effected anywhere abroad where Mauritius has an embassy, a consulate or a honorary consul. Note that Provisional Registration is allowed only for a period not exceeding 3 months.

Parallel Registration

Mauritius permits parallel registration of a ship in Mauritius which is registered in a foreign register but is bareboat chartered by a citizen of Mauritius or body corporate established under the laws of Mauritius.

Specification

Type

Every type of vessel, lighter, barge, structure or launch, however propelled, intended for use in navigation is eligible.

Age

It shall not exceed 15 years of age since the date of its first construction.

Class

It must be 'classified' with one of the classification societies approved by the Director of Shipping which will issue a Mauritius Tonnage Certificate.

Insurance

Every Mauritius Ship must carry insurance cover against risk of loss or damage to third Parties.



Our Services

Liaison with Ship Classification Societies and relevant Authorities

Drafting of Legal Documentation

KYC procedures with Mauritian Authorities for Crew members

Setting up of the GBL and provide administration, fiscal and accounting services on a continuous basis.

Setting up of Ownership structures

Ship Registration Procedures

Advise on international requirement including change in insurance covers, bareboat charter registration, renewal of mortgages and liens

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