

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



For Competitive, Efficient, Quality and Safe Transport Services

Surface and Marine Transport Regulatory Authority  
Mamlaka ya Udhhibiti Usafiri wa Nchi Kavu na Majini

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## **MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE**

### **MSN 2017**

#### **Drug and Alcohol Policy – STCW 2010 (Manila) requirements**

***This notice is issued to all seafarers, maritime training institutions, shipping companies, ship owners, ship operators, shipmasters and all parties concerned.***

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#### **1.0 Introduction**

The STCW Convention 1978 has been amended by the 2010 Manila Amendments and contains new requirements for all seafarers. Fitness for Duty and sets a blood alcohol limit of 0.05%.

#### **2.0**

Existing legislations relating to hours of work and fitness for duty remains in force, along with the recording, requirements for rest periods and rest hours are the same as the STCW 2010 regulations.

Limits for blood alcohol level or alcohol in the breath have not yet been implemented in Tanzania legislation.

Masters, officers, seafarers and ship owners should be able to show – under the concept of 'no more favourable treatment'- that they have complied with the requirements of STCW 2010 when entering a port in a State which has ratified and implemented those requirements in its national legislations.

Seafarers and ship owners should ensure that the blood alcohol limits and alcohol in the breath limits are complied with at all times as these may be tested whilst the ship is in a foreign port.

On Tanzania-flagged ships the minimum limits of alcohol for all seafarers are:

The limits of alcohol in STCW 2010 are not greater than 0.05% blood alcohol level or 0.25mg/l alcohol in the breath for masters, officers and other seafarers while performing designated safety, security and marine environmental duties.

These limits apply to masters, officers and other seafarers whilst on duty and all seafarers who by nature or terms of their engagement or employment might be required to take action on cases of emergency.

The abuse of drugs is strictly prohibited. Prescription and non-prescription medicines should always be used with caution.

Companies should implement a written policy of drug and alcohol abuse prevention in the safety management system of the company and its vessels incorporating these limits.

It should be noted that the law regarding the conduct endangering ship and person of the consumption of alcohol, and the sanctions on operating vessels while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, is provided in Sections 172 of the Merchant Shipping Act 2003 (No. 21 of 2003).

### **More Information**

**Registrar of Ships/ Registrar of Seafarers  
Surface and Marine Transport Regulatory Authority  
Mawasiliano House  
Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road/Nkomo Road  
P.O. Box 3093  
Dar es Salaam**

**Tel :** +255 22 2197510

**Fax :** +255 22 2116697

**Email :** [dg@sumatra.go.tz](mailto:dg@sumatra.go.tz), [info@sumatra.go.tz](mailto:info@sumatra.go.tz)

**Website:** [www.sumatra.go.tz](http://www.sumatra.go.tz)