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## **Port State Control Concentrated Inspection Campaign 2025 on Ballast Water Management**

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### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1. This Technical Alert is issued by the Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA) to provide information on the Tokyo MoU's & Paris MoU's joint Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) on Ballast Water Management (BWM) and recommendations for Shipowners, Companies and Masters.
- 1.2. The purpose is also to verify that ships comply with the requirements of BWM
- 1.3. This Alert should be read in conjunction with BMA [Marine Notice 93 – Port State Control Inspections](#) and [Marine Notice 65 – Ballast Water Management Convention](#).

### **2. Introduction**

- 2.1. The inspection campaign will be held for the three months from 01 September 2025 to 30 November 2025.
- 2.2. This campaign will focus on verifying whether vessels comply with the mandatory provisions of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (BWM Convention).

### **3. Inspection Process**

- 3.1. Port State Control Officers will use a pre-defined questionnaire to assess that the BWM requirements in the respective areas are met. A copy of the checklist is provided in the Annex to this Alert.
- 3.2. To determine if ships meet the requirements of the Convention, the following areas will be verified during inspections:
  - i. Proper certification for BWM Convention;
  - ii. Approval and update of the Ballast Water Management Plan (BWMP);
  - iii. Crew familiarisation in the implementation of the BWMP;
  - iv. Ballast Water Management System approval and its operation;

- v. Records of Ballast Water Record Book (BWRB); The format of the BWRB will be standardised using operation codes A to H to categorise ballast water activities, including examples of scenarios involving challenging water quality. From 1 February 2025, all ships subject to the BWM Convention must implement the revised BWRB format, ensuring adherence to the new structure and operation codes.
  - vi. Ballast water sediment management; and
  - vii. Valid exemptions, if any.
- 3.3. If any non-conformities are found, actions by the port State may vary from recording a deficiency and instructing the Master to rectify it within a certain period of time, to detaining the ship until the serious deficiencies have been rectified. Inspection results will be published on the Tokyo MoU and Paris MoU websites.

#### **4. Recommendations for Shipowners, Companies and Masters**

- 4.1. Ensure the BWMS is fully operational, properly maintained and in compliance at all times.
- 4.2. Verify that all certification and approval documents for ballast water management are in order.
- 4.3. Conduct crew training and familiarisation with BWMP procedures and requirements.
- 4.4. Ensure the ballast water record book entries are accurate and up-to-date.
- 4.5. Confirm that any exemptions issued are documented and valid.

#### **5. Validity**

- 5.1. This Technical Alert is valid until 30 November 2025.

**QUESTIONNAIRE**

**CONCENTRATED INSPECTION CAMPAIGN ON BALLAST WATER  
MANAGEMENT**

**Paris MoU/Tokyo MoU**

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Ship's name        |  |
| IMO No.            |  |
| Date of Inspection |  |

**QUESTIONS 1 TO 10 ANSWERED WITH A "NO" MUST BE ACCOMPANIED  
BY A RELEVANT DEFICIENCY ON THE REPORT OF INSPECTION.**

| No.  | Questions   | Yes | No | N/A | Detention |
|------|---|-----|----|-----|-----------|
| 1 *  | Is a valid International Ballast Water Management Certificate (IBWMC) on board? (01136 - BWM 2004 / Reg. E-2)   |     |    |     |           |
| 2 *  | Is the approved Ballast Water Management Plan (BWMP) on board? (14801- BWM 2004 / Reg. B-1)   |     |    |     |           |
| 3 *  | Is the BWMP up to date to reflect the applicable requirements to manage Ballast Water as required by the Convention? (14801- BWM 2004 / Reg. B-1)     |     |    |     |           |
| 4 *  | Are officers and crew familiar with their duties in the implementation of the BWMP? (14806 - BWM 2004 / Reg. B-6)                                     |     |    |     |           |
| 5 *  | Is the Ballast Water Management System (BWMS) approved by the Administration/Organization, as appropriate? (14812 – BWM 2004 / Reg. D-3 or BWMS Code) |     |    |     |           |
| 6 *  | Is the BWMS operational? (14811 - BWM 2004 / Reg. D-2 or BWMS Code Section 4))  |     |    |     |           |
| 7    | Was the Ballast Water managed according to the BWMP? (14813 - BWM 2004 / Reg. B-1)  |     |    |     |           |
| 8    | Is the Ballast Water Record Book (BWRB) properly filled including exemptions if granted? (14802- BWM 2004 / Reg. B-2 & Reg. A-4.4)                    |     |    |     |           |
| 9 *  | Is the crew managing Ballast Water sediments in accordance with the BWMP? (14805 - BWM 2004 / Reg. B-5)   |     |    |     |           |
| 10 * | If an exemption has been granted, are the conditions of exemption implemented? (14809 – BWM 2004 / Reg. A-4)  |     |    |     |           |