



# BELIZE HIGH SEAS FISHING VESSEL CIRCULAR



**FVC-12/02**

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**Issued: 5 May 2012**

**Rev:**

**Revision Date:**

**TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, CHARTERERS, MASTER AND CREW, DEPUTY REGISTRARS AND RESIDENT AGENTS**

**SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR THE VESSELS WHICH OPERATE IN THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONES (EEZ) OF OTHER COUNTRIES**

**Reference: Issued in accordance with Part II 3 (1)(f) and Part VII 19(1)(2) of the Belize High Seas Fishing Act, 2003**

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## **BACKGROUND:**

Concerned that the relevant permission or authorizations are not being obtained from the countries in whose EEZs our vessels operate, our Administration has decided to implement FVC-12/02 to assist owners in following the guidelines and requirements for operation with the EEZs of other countries

## **APPLICATION**

This Fishing Vessel Circular applies to all Belize registered fishing vessels engaged in or wishing to engage in operation within the EEZ of another country.

## **DESCRIPTION OF PROCESS FOR FISHING VESSELS – AT SEA TRANSSHIPMENT**

1. Operation within the EEZ of another State is strictly prohibited unless proper authorization from that State has been received.
2. All vessels which currently operate in the EEZ of another State(s) and which have acquired authorization/permits/licenses from these States must provide this Administration with all valid copies of any authorization granted to their vessels by these State(s)
3. Considering that these authorizations may carry validity periods not consistent with the validity of our HSFL, arrangements must be made for the timely submission to our Administration of all renewed authorizations as they become available.
4. At the time of application for HSFL or renewal thereof, if the vessel will operate within an EEZ, indication must be made on the application form of the name of the country in whose EEZ the vessel will operate. The HSFL will only be issued after submission of a valid authorization from the State in whose EEZ the vessel will operate and will be conditioned in accordance thereto.

5. Failure to notify this Administration of vessels' intention to operate in the EEZ of another State and the timely submission of authorizations granted or renewed will be considered a direct violation of our procedures and will result in punitive actions taken against the vessel and its owners and operators.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS NOTICE**

This Fishing Vessel Circular is to be implemented forthwith. The conditions of this Circular are subject to change without prior notice.

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*Any queries related to this Circular should be directed to:*

International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize  
Fishing Vessels Manager  
Tel: 501-223-5026/5031/5047  
Email: [immarbe@btl.net](mailto:immarbe@btl.net)

Belize Fisheries Department  
Fisheries Administrator  
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