



Office of  
Deputy Commissioner  
of Maritime Affairs

## THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

### Bureau Of Maritime Affairs

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Telephone: (703) 790-3434

April 7, 2006

MARINE OPERATIONS NOTE: 01/2006

**SUBJECT: Brazil Ballast Water Management Plan Requirements**

**References:**

- (a) **Brazilian Navy Ports & Coastal Directorate 2005 Regulations on Ballast Water management (NORMAN-20/DPC)**
- (b) **Guidelines for BWM and Development of BWMP - Resolution MEPC.127(53)**
- (c) **Guidelines for Ballast Water Exchange - Resolution MEPC.124(53)**

**Dear Owner/Operator:**

The Administration is offering Ballast Water Management Plan (BWMP) approval in order to assist Liberian flag ships compliance with Brazil's Ballast Water Management (BWM) requirement. Brazil intends to enforce their requirement for an approved BWMP beginning 1 July 2006.

In October 2005, Brazil's mandatory requirements for BWM and reporting entered into force. These new requirements apply to all ships using Brazilian ports and terminals. MODUs will be exempted from the ballast water exchange requirements after their first arrival in Brazilian waters from another port or from international waters. Under the new requirements all ships using ballast water must have a BWMP approved by either the vessel's flag Administration or a Classification Society recognized by that Administration. Brazil postponed until 1 July 2006 their enforcement of the requirement to have an approved BWMP to allow time for compliance.

Brazil's BWM and BWMP requirements are modeled in part after the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ship's Ballast Water and Sediments which was adopted at the International Conference on Ballast Water Management for Ships held in February 2004 and associated Guidelines in reference (b) and (c) which were recently adopted at IMO. The international BWM convention has not yet met the requirements for entry into force and the associated guidelines are not mandatory. However, since Brazil has not provided any detailed guidance on BWM or BWMPs, this Administration will use the above referenced guidelines, as applicable, when approving BWMPs for ships trading to Brazil. Companies may therefore wish to be guided by these guidelines in developing their BWMPs. Use of the guidelines may also make future compliance easier, should other governments implement their own national requirements and when the international convention becomes mandatory.

Additional guidance:

1. BWMPs may be approved by the Administration or by one of its Recognized Organizations (RO).
2. Owners and operators are encouraged to prepare the BWMP using the format contained in reference (b).
3. The BWMP is intended to be a simple document. Inclusion of extensive background information on the ship, its structure, etc., should be avoided, as this is generally available elsewhere. If such information is relevant, it should be kept in annexes, or an existing document or manual and reference should be made to the location of the information.
4. Brazil requires the BWMP to be written in the working language of the ship. If this language is not English, Spanish or French, a translation into one of these languages should be included. However, the copy submitted to the Administration for approval must be in English.
5. The plan shall be mailed to:

LISCR, LLC  
Attn: Safety Department  
8619 Westwood Center Drive, Suite 300  
Vienna, Virginia 22182, USA  
Email: [safety@liscr.com](mailto:safety@liscr.com)

For more information please contact Timothy M. Keegan at telephone +1 703 251 2409 email: [safety@liscr.com](mailto:safety@liscr.com), or Captain Inderjit Arora at telephone +1 703 251 2453 email: [IARORA@liscr.com](mailto:IARORA@liscr.com).

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