

Maritime Administration of the DPRK (MA)

◎ Introduction

MA, established in 1947, is a government agency responsible for the maritime administrative affairs of the DPRK in accordance with the policies, laws and regulations of the State.

MA has established legal framework, human and material resources and technical foundations to ensure the national maritime safety/security and marine environment protection under the wise leadership of the great leaders and the respected Marshal. MA, as a member State of IMO, has made every possible effort in order to fulfil its obligations and responsibilities under the international instruments.

As shown in the organizational structure, it consists of 11 main divisions and 3 supporting divisions (upper part of the organizational structure). MA has a well-organized administrative structure with 12 Provincial Offices (POs of MA) and Sub-Offices thereunder as well as 4 permanent missions abroad.

◎ Organizational structure and Function

△ Function of Each Division

1 Coordination Division (CD)

- ensures the development of the National Maritime Strategic Plan of the State and regular monitoring in implementation thereof and takes action, as appropriate.
- updates the functions of MA & duties of POs of MA, reviews those implementation and takes action as appropriate.
- develops work plans of MA and regularly receives the reports on those implementation from the relevant divisions to make records and take action as appropriate, while considering all documents related to MA's performance.
- is responsible for establishing the quality management system of MA, conducting the internal audit every year and taking appropriate measures for its improvement. For this purpose, CD has contact with Korea Maritime Certification Center.
- controls the activities of Korea Classification Society.

2 Maritime Legal Division (MLD)

- drafts and amends the maritime laws and regulations of the State.
- regularly considers the matters arising from implementation of the maritime instruments and takes action to update them accordingly.

3 Maritime Safety Division (MSD)

- is responsible for ensuring that the safety management system of ships and shipping companies and security system of ships and port facilities are established in accordance with the national laws and regulations.
- is in charge of pre-sailing inspections of DPRK-flagged ships engaged on international voyages.
- undertakes port State control inspections of foreign ships entering into ports under the jurisdiction of the DPRK.
- effectuates external exchanges and co-operations in the field of maritime safety.
- gets involved and assists in the national legislations with respect to safety management, security, pre-sailing and port State control inspections.

4 Marine Environmental Protection Division (MSD)

- partakes in drafting and updating the laws and regulations on the prevention of pollution from ships at seas, rivers and lakes and secures observance of the relevant laws and regulations which have been adopted and come into force.
- establishes a nationwide ship oil pollution emergency response system and ensures its implementation in cases of oil spillage.

5 Marine Casualty Investigation Division (MCID)

- considers the matters arising from implementing the laws and regulations relevant to marine casualties/accidents investigation, and proposes the amendments thereto.
- establishes marine casualties and accidents reporting system, and ensures its normal operation.
- controls POs of MA in investigating and considering marine casualties and accidents.
- ensures periodic improvement of the qualification of marine casualty investigators and scientific approaches to casualty investigation with effective application of IT.
- regularly collects and analyzes statistics of marine casualties/accidents and identifies root causes thereof to take actions against recurrence, while informing the relevant bodies of the casualties.
- effectuates international exchanges and cooperation in marine casualties/accidents investigations.

6 Ships/Seafarers Registration Division (SSRD)

- undertakes registration & deletion of ships/seafarers and determination of minimum safe manning, while getting involved in making the laws and regulations thereof.

- assigns IMO ship identification numbers and Company and registered owner identification numbers to DPRK-flagged ships engaged on international voyage.

7 Seafarers Training Division (STD)

- gets involved in making the relevant laws and regulations concerning training for seafarers and secures observance thereof.
- conducts the training assessment for seafarers.

8 Seafarers Qualification Division (SQD)

- gets involved in making the relevant laws and regulations concerning seafarers qualification and secures observance thereof.
- undertakes certification for seafarers.

9 Maritime Communications and Search and Rescue Coordination Division (COMSAR division)

- gets involved in making the laws and regulations related to maritime communications and search and rescue operations, and secures observance thereof.
- coordinates the national maritime communication and search and rescue operations.

10 External Affairs Division (EAD)

is responsible for foreign affairs with other Maritime Administrations or Authorities and international organizations including IMO.

11 Scientific and Technological Administrative Division (S&TD)

- takes administrative actions to implement policies of the State in science and technology with regard to maritime affairs.
- conducts training and certification for maritime control officers.

Δ Organizational structure of Maritime Administration of the DPRK



