



REPUBLIC OF VANUATU  
OFFICE OF THE  
MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

VANUATU INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING REGISTRY

Circular #25-Revised

**Ratification by Vanuatu of the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007 and Issuance of Wreck Removal Convention Certificates**

**Date: January 01, 2026**

**From:** Office of the Maritime Administrator, Vanuatu International Shipping Registry

**To:** All Shipowners, Masters, Managers, Special Agents, Recognized Organizations, Approved P&I Clubs and All Other Interested Parties

The Vanuatu International Shipping Registry (VISR) hereby informs all concerned parties that the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu has ratified the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007. In accordance with Article XVIII of the Convention, the Convention shall enter into force for the Republic of Vanuatu on **16 January 2026**.

With effect from 16 January 2026, vessels subject to the Convention will be required to maintain compulsory insurance or other financial security covering liability for the removal of wrecks, as prescribed under the Convention.

Accordingly, as from the above date, in accordance with the provisions of the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007, the VISR will commence the **issuance of the Certificate of Insurance or Other Financial Security in Respect of Liability for the Removal of Wrecks**, upon satisfactory verification of valid insurance or other financial security.

As per IMO Circular Letter No. 3464, the VISR accepts Certificates of Insurance or Blue Cards issued by members of the International Group of P&I Clubs. In addition, certificates issued by insurers and P&I Clubs approved or accepted by VISR are also recognized. A list of such approved or accepted providers is available on the official VISR website at [www.register-vu.com](http://www.register-vu.com).

The applicable fees for the issuance of the Wreck Removal Convention Certificate are established as follows.

- For Vanuatu-flagged vessels, the issuance fee shall be **USD 150**.
- For non-Vanuatu flagged vessels, the issuance fee shall be **USD 250**.

**Application Procedure**

Applications shall be submitted using the official “VISR - Application for Issuance of Wreck Removal Convention Certificate”, which is available on the official VISR website at [www.register-vu.com](http://www.register-vu.com). The completed application form shall be accompanied by a valid **Wreck Removal Insurance Certificate or Blue Card** issued by an approved or accepted P&I Club or insurance provider, together with a copy of the vessel’s **current & valid Certificate of Registry**. All application documents shall be officially submitted by email to [info@register-vu.com](mailto:info@register-vu.com) and [mstrimbu@register-vu.com](mailto:mstrimbu@register-vu.com) for review and processing by the VISR.

**Validity of Existing Certificates Issued by Other State Parties**

Wreck Removal Convention Certificates issued by other State Parties to Vanuatu-flagged vessels prior to 16 January 2026 shall remain valid and fully recognized by the VISR until their natural date of expiry. Such certificates are not required to be replaced immediately upon the Convention’s entry into force for Vanuatu. However, upon their expiration, or in the event of any change to the vessel’s registration details, a new certificate shall be applied for and issued by the VISR in accordance with the procedures set out in this Circular.

For further information or clarification, interested parties may contact the VISR at [info@register-vu.com](mailto:info@register-vu.com).

**For the Maritime Administrator of the Republic of Vanuatu**



**Saade Makhlouf**  
Maritime Administrator  
Republic of Vanuatu