

Ballast Water Management Plan
Section 10 – Communication

10.1 General

- This section contains information to assist the Master in the procedures for co-ordinating in the discharge of ballast water with the coastal state, local government or other involved parties.
- The quick and effective communication between the ship and Coastal State or other involved parties becomes vital in mitigating the effects of an unnecessary delay for ships seeking entry to Port States.
- The requirements and roles of the various national and local authorities involved vary widely from state and even from port to port. Approaches to the responsibility for ballast water exchange also vary. In majority of coastal states, the responsibility for compliance with port state requirement is placed on the ship owner and the ship.
- Generic reports and Information can be found in section Appendix I and VII to assist the Master with organising a communication to ballast water exchange and treatment plan to a port state not having issued any specific requirements.
- Therefore the master, with the responsible officer, should timely obtain all necessary information and prepare the vessel accordingly tanking into consideration the safety and operational restriction as described in this plan and relevant sections. Information on specific port state procedures can be obtained either by referring to Appendix I and VII of this plan, consulting the company and/or local agent for latest information/requirements.

10.2 Coastal State Discharge Procedure

- Follow agreed reporting procedures;
- Contact ship's agent to ascertain the latest information/requirements on ballast discharge in the water of respective state;
- Advise/communicate with the company and request any other information they might hold on ballast water discharge;
- Ensure that you timely plan for all above actions and all safety and operational restrictions are consulted.

Actions where the coastal state has no specific procedures:

- Contact ships agent and/or company to obtain latest information on the discharge requirements at port state territory;
- Carry out discharge of ballast water as per approved ballast exchange sequence;
- Take into consideration safety and operational procedures related to respective discharge;
- Keep proper records and have them readily available for possible inspection.

<p>The coastal state should be contacted for specific ballast water discharge requirements and reporting prior to vessel's arrival in port state territorial waters.</p>
