

QUESTIONNAIRE ON INFORMATION ON PORT AND COASTAL STATE REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO PRIVATELY CONTRACTED ARMED SECURITY PERSONNEL ON BOARD SHIPS

MALDIVES

(The present questionnaire should be read in conjunction with MSC.1/Circ.1408 on the Interim Recommendations for port and coastal States regarding the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the High Risk Area¹)

1 Requirements regarding ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals when carrying firearms and/or security-related equipment and/or PCASP².

1.1 Do you require specific notification from ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals?

Yes. Advance notification is required by a number of government agencies prior to, and at, entry and departure, including ministry of Defence and National Security, Maldives customs service and Maldives Ports Authority. Vessel are also governed by the applicable local regulations as well as the international conventions to which the Maldives government is signatory. Information required by these agencies may include details of the ship particulars, cargo manifest, local agent, crew manifest and details and declaration of the prohibited items if present on board.

Ships having armed guards on board with fire arms/ammunitions and security related equipment are governed by the regulation 2018/R-32 (Regulation regarding carriage of firearms on board for the safety of the ship). Subject to the regulation, all transactions pertaining to the above will be directly dealt by the Ministry of Defence and National security.

Note: FAL Standard 2.2, establishes the principle that the "General Declaration" (IMO FAL Form 1) shall be the document providing data required by public authorities relating to the ship.

1.2 Do you require information regarding flag State authorization for use of PCASP and/or the firearms and/or the security-related equipment for use by the PCASP from ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals?

Yes. Flag state authorization forms part of the information required by the Ministry of Defence and National Security under regulation 2018/R-32. In addition to this, ships are subject to show the relevant documents to the government agencies when required. It is also important to note that ships having Armed Guards or PCASP by a Privately Contracted Maritime Security Company (PCMSC) authorised by the Ministry of Defence and National Security are only allowed to enter the Maldives ports.

Note: MSC.1/Circ.1406/Rev.1 establishes the principle that "Flag States should have in place a policy on whether or not the use of PCASP will be authorized and, if so, under which conditions." This

policy "may include a process for authorizing the use of PCASP which have been found to meet minimum requirements for ships flying its flag."

1. High Risk Area: an area as defined in the Best Management Practices for Protection against Somalia Based Piracy (MSC.1/Circ.1339) unless otherwise defined by the flag State. **2 All references to firearms include the associated ammunition, consumables, spare parts and maintenance equipment for use by PCASP, and all references to security-related equipment includes protective and communication equipment for use by PCASP.**

1.3 Do you require specific notification regarding firearms for use by the PCASP carried on board ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals?

Yes. Ships are subject to Regulation 2018/R-32 under which notification is required to the ministry of Defence and National Security. Rifles and hand guns with calibre less than 10mm and shot guns with less than 16 gauges and below are only allowed. This notification has to be coordinated through a local agent authorised by the Ministry of Defence and National Security by filling out the [TFA FORM-02](#). Information includes type and name of the fire arms, quantity, calibre, weapon license number and country of manufacture.

Note: FAL Standard 2.4 establishes the principle that the "Ship's Stores Declaration" (IMO FAL Form 3) shall be the document providing data required by public authorities.

1.4 Do you require specific notification regarding security-related equipment for use by the PCASP carried on board ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals?

Notification forms part of the information required by the Ministry of Defence and National Security and Maldives Customs Service. Information and specific details may be required about the security related equipment and justification for their carriage on-board.

Note: FAL Standard 2.4, establishes the principle that the "Ship's Stores Declaration" (IMO FAL Form 3) shall be the document providing data required by public authorities.

1.5 Do you require specific notification regarding PCASP carried on board ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals?

Yes. PCASP detail forms part of the information required by the Ministry of Defence and National Security and Maldives Immigration. This notification has to be coordinated through a local agent authorised by the Ministry of Defence and National Security by filling out [TFA FORM -03](#).

Note: FAL Standard 2.6 establishes the principle that the "Crew List" (FAL Form 5) shall be the document providing data required by public authorities.

1.6 What requirements, if any, do you have in place for ships carrying firearms and/or the security-related equipment for use by the PCASP or PCASP when transiting through your territorial seas and/or contiguous zones before arrival in or after departure from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals?

Ships having Armed Guards on board with fire arms/ammunitions and security related equipments are subject to the regulation 2018/R-32 and hence advance notification of 2 days (excluding public holidays) is required to the Ministry of Defence and National Security.

2 Requirements regarding ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals for the purpose of embarking or disembarking firearms and/or security-related equipment and/or PCASP.

2.1 Do you allow the embarkation or disembarkation of firearms and/or the security-related equipment for use by the PCASP or of PCASP in your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals or elsewhere in your territorial sea(s)?

Yes. The Maldives not being in a High Risk Area (HRA), it is obligatory to disembark the security related equipment and fire arms under the supervision of the Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF) Coast Guard, coordinated by a local agent authorised by the Ministry of Defence and National Security. These fire arms will be held in the safe custody of the MNDF and returned when the outward clearance for departure is issued to the vessel by the Maldives Customs Service. The necessary formalities have to be coordinated through a local agent by application for permit of transit of fire arms/ammunitions through the Maldives by sea or by air which can be made by filling out [TFA FORM-1A](#) and [TFA FORM-1B](#).

Hence, as the authorised local coordinating agent for a PMSC, the agent is responsible on behalf of the PMSC to coordinate with all the relevant government authorities for obtaining necessary approvals, and ensuring the vessel's compliance to the local laws and regulations.

2.2 Do you require information regarding flag State authorization for use of PCASP and/or the firearms and/or the security-related equipment for use by the PCASP from ships intending to enter in or depart from your ports for the purpose of embarking or disembarking firearms and/or the security-related equipment for use by the PCASP or PCASP?

Yes. It is obligatory for the vessels to have authorisation for use of PCASP by the flag states under regulation 2018/ R-32. However if the Ministry of Defence and National Security has the firm ground to believe that a PCASP is not suitable to allow in to the Maldivian waters, than the ministry has the due right to deny the ships intending to enter in or depart from the Maldivian ports for the purpose of embarking or disembarking firearms and security related equipment. Flag state authorisation and relevant documents are required to keep on board the ship.

Note: MSC.1/Circ.1406/Rev.1 establishes the principle that "Flag States should have in place a policy on whether or not the use of PCASP will be authorized and, if so, under which conditions." This policy "may include a process for authorizing the use of PCASP which have been found to meet minimum requirements for ships flying its flag."

2.3 What requirements, if any, do you have in place in connection with the import or arrival in and/or export or departure from your territory of firearms and/or security-related equipment for use by PCASP?

The importation/exportation of firearms and/or security-related equipment to and from Maldives is governed by a number of Maldivian laws, including Regulation 2018/R-32, and the Import Prohibition Act 4/1975. Applications for import/export of fire arms and security related equipment for use by PCASP is required in advance, and application can be made by an authorised local coordinating agent directly to the Ministry of Defence and National Security. Application for permit of fire arms and ammunitions through Maldives by sea and air can be made through [TFA FORM -1A](#) and [TFA FORM - 1B](#) respectively.

2.4 What requirements, if any, do you have in place in connection with the storage, security or control of the firearms and/or security-related equipment for use by the PCASP prior to their embarkation or after their disembarkation?

Fire arms/ammunitions and security related equipment for use by PCASP will be taken into the custody of the Coast Guard Port and Harbour Security and stored in the care of MNDF. Such fire arms and ammunitions will be released by the Coast Guard and handed over to the vessel when outward clearance for the vessel is issued by the Maldives Customs Service. The above formalities have to be coordinated by an authorised local coordinating agent.

2.5 What requirements, if any, do you have in place in connection with the storage, security or control of the firearms and/or security-related equipment carried on board for use by the PCASP after their embarkation or prior to their disembarkation, when the ship is in your port, anchorage, roadstead or territorial waters?

It is mandatory to declare the fire arms/ammunitions and security related equipment carried on board for use by PCASP and hand over to the custody of the MNDF Coast Guard. It is a criminal offence to keep it on board while in port or anchorage, roadstead or territorial waters of the Maldives.

2.6 What requirements, if any, do you have in place for ships carrying firearms and/or the security-related equipment for use by the PCASP or of PCASP (which they have embarked your anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals) when transiting through your territorial seas and/or contiguous zones after departure from your ports, anchorages, roadstead or offshore terminals?

Ships departing from the Maldivian ports with PCASP on board are required to report their position every 05 hours to the Maldives Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) until the vessel is out of the Maldives Search and Rescue Region (SRR).

3 Reporting of security-related incidents in territorial seas.

3.1 What do you consider to constitute a security incident in your territorial sea(s)?

Security incidents within the territorial waters of the Maldives are acts or incidents both defined by, and subject to, international conventions to which the Maldives government is signatory and various relevant state legislations in force. Some of the prominent state regulations in force include;

Maldives Maritime Zone Act 6/96

Defence Act 1/2008

Police Act 5/2008

Regulation 2018/R-32 (Regulation regarding carriage of firearms on board for the safety of the ship).

Import Prohibition Act 4/75

Fishery Act 5/87

Environment Protection Act 4/93

A number of other Acts and Regulations deal with enforcement, management and regulation of activities within the Maldives maritime domain. Ship owners and Masters are strongly advised to be aware and adhere to the local regulations in force.

3.2 Do you require information regarding security-related incidents occurring in your territorial sea(s)?

Security related incidents in the Maldives territorial waters shall be reported to the Maldives National Defence Force as soon as possible. Such reports can be made to the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC).

Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre Maldives (MRCC)

Phone: +960 3395981, +960 3398898, 191(Local)

Fax: +960 3391665

Inmarsat C No: 445526673

Mail Address: mrcc@mndf.gov.mv

Ministry of Defence and National Security
Male'
Republic of Maldives.

Form No: MDNS-DSCS/TFA/20___/_____

Application for Permit of Transit of Firearms and Ammunitions through Maldives by Sea

For Applicant's Use

LCA Name:	LCA Permit No.:		
LCA Contact Person:	LCA Contact No.:	LCA Email:	

PMSC Details

Company Name:	Country of Registration:
Registry No.:	NOL No.:

Purpose of transit of fire arms and ammunitions:

<input type="checkbox"/> To provide maritime security to (vessel name), which is scheduled to arrive/depart the port of Male' on (date)
<input type="checkbox"/> To take back the weapons and ammunitions on completion of anti-piracy operations

Transit of weapons by sea

Name of Vessel:	IMO No.:	Registry No.:	Flag State:
Call sign:	Country of Registration:	Vessel Owner:	Vessel Operator:
Charter Party:	Vessel Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Private	Vessel Length:	Vessel Draught:
Stopovers or Anchorage prior to the visit:			
Last Port of Call:	ETA:	ETD:	Next Port of Call:
Stopovers or anchorages prior to the visit:			

If the weapons and ammunitions are under the safe custody of MNDF:

Weapons brought by (vessel/aircraft)	Weapons brought date:	Under which LCA:
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Weapons details:

Please fill the serial number of the weapons and complete the details in the TFA FORM-03: Weapon serial numbers:
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Supporting documents required

<input type="checkbox"/> End User Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> Weapon License	<input type="checkbox"/> PMSC Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> TFA FORM-02	<input type="checkbox"/> TFA FORM-03	<input type="checkbox"/> PCASP Registration Documents

*End User Certificates must be approved by the government authority (signed and stamped)

I/We declare that the foregoing particulars and information furnished in this application form are true, accurate and complete. I/We understand that if it is subsequently discovered that any particulars or information contained herewith is false or misleading, the ministry holds the right to reject this application.

Name:

Date:

Signature:

Stamp:

For official use only:

The Ministry of Defence and National Security permits the above mentioned fire arms and ammunitions to be transited through Maldives in accordance with Maldives Law number 4/75 (Import Prohibition Act of Maldives) and the regulation 2018/R-32 (Regulation Concerning Defence Arms Carried Onboard Incoming Foreign Vessel) for providing maritime security to the above mentioned vessel or carriage back to another port on completion of anti-piracy operations. **As the authorized Local Coordinating Agent for the above mentioned PMSC, the LCA is responsible on behalf of the PMSC to coordinate with all relevant government authorities for obtaining other necessary approvals, and ensuring the vessel's compliance to the above mentioned law and regulations.**

Name:

Designation:

Signature:

Stamp:

TO: LOCAL COORDINATING AGENT

CC: MALDIVES CUSTOMS SERVICE, MNDF MALE' AREA, MNDF ORDANANCE SERVICE

Ministry of Defence and National Security

Male'

Republic of Maldives.

Form No: MDNS-DSCS/TFA/20____/____

Application for Permit of Transit of Firearms and Ammunitions through Maldives by Air

For Applicant's Use

LCA Name:	LCA Permit No.:		
LCA Contact Person:	LCA Contact No.:	LCA Email:	

PMSC Details

Company Name:	Country of Registration:
Registry No.:	NOL No.:

Purpose of transit of fire arms and ammunitions:

<input type="checkbox"/> To provide maritime security to (vessel name), which is scheduled to arrive/depart the port of Male' on (date) <input type="checkbox"/> To take back the weapons and ammunitions on completion of anti-piracy operations
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Weapon Arrival / Departure info

Arriving Airline/Flight No.	ETA:	Departing Airline/Flight no.	ETD:
Port of Embarkation:	Transiting Airports(s)		Country/State(s):
Airway Bill No.:			

Firearms and ammunition receiver details:

Name:	Country/State(s):	Designation:
Passport No. / National Identification No.:		
(Please attach a copy of passport/National Identification Document)		

If the weapons and ammunitions are under the safe custody of MNDF:

Weapons brought by (aircraft)	Weapons brought date:	Under which LCA:
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Weapons details:

Please fill the serial number of the weapons and complete the details in the TFA FORM -03:
Weapon serial numbers:

Supporting documents required

<input type="checkbox"/> End User Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> Weapon License	<input type="checkbox"/> PMSC Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> TFA FORM-02	<input type="checkbox"/> TFA FORM-03	<input type="checkbox"/> PCASP Registration Documents
<input type="checkbox"/> Approval Docs from transiting airport		

*End User Certificates must be approved by the government authority (signed and stamped)

I/We declare that the foregoing particulars and information furnished in this application form are true, accurate and complete. I/We understand that if it is subsequently discovered that any particulars or information contained herewith is false or misleading, the ministry holds the right to reject this application.

Name:

Date:

Signature:

Stamp:

For official use only:

The Ministry of Defence and National Security permits the above mentioned fire arms and ammunitions to be transited through Maldives in accordance with Maldives Law number 4/75 (Import Prohibition Act of Maldives) and the regulation 2018/R-32 (Regulation Concerning Defence Arms Carried Onboard Incoming Foreign Vessel) for providing maritime security to the above mentioned vessel or carriage back to another port on completion of anti-piracy operations. As the authorized Local Coordinating Agent for the above mentioned PMSC, the LCA is responsible on behalf of the PMSC to coordinate with all relevant government authorities for obtaining other necessary approvals, and ensuring the vessel's compliance to the above mentioned law and regulations.			
Name:	Designation:	Signature:	Stamp:

TO: LOCAL COORDINATING AGENT

CC: MALDIVES CUSTOMS SERVICE, MNDF MALE' AREA, MNDF ORDANANCE



Ministry of Defence and National Security
Male'
Republic of Maldives.

Weapon Details

Item No.	Type and Name	Category		Quantity	Caliber	Weapon Serial No.:	Weapon License No.:	Country of Manufacture
		<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B					
		<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B					
		<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B					
		<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B					
		<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B					
		<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B					
		<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B					
		<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B					
		<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B					

[Company Stamp]

Signature:
Name:
Date:

Type:
Category A; Pistol, Revolver
Category B; Submachine gun, Rifle, Shotgun, Carbine

* Please use additional forms if required



Republic of Maldives.

Privately Contracted Armed Security Personnel (PCASP) Details

[illegible]

* PCSAP must be registered to a PMSC and valid documents from the PMSC should be submitted in support of this application

Signature: _____

.....
Name:

.....
Designation:

[Company Stamp]