



CIRCULAR NO.5-2021/MARITIME SECURITY

10 DECEMBER 2021

This Circular serves to provide regular information from the Maritime Security Committee about maritime security and security information of interest in Solomon Islands.

The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) 1974 have force of law in Solomon Islands as per the Shipping Act 1998 as amended. The Chapter XI-2 of SOLAS on Special Measures to Enhance Maritime Security and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code contain detailed security-related requirements for governments, port authorities and shipping companies visited by or operating vessels engaged in international voyages. The Maritime Safety Administration (Ship and Port Security) Regulations 2011 provide for maritime security management and responsibilities in Solomon Islands.

SECURITY LEVEL

From this day 10 December 2021, all restrictions to movements of vessels are lifted. The decision elevating the maritime security level at Honiara Port Point Cruz to level 2 when international vessels are at berth is cancelled and security level 1 is re-applied.

Solomon Islands is now back to **Security Level 1**. Section 2.1 of the ISPS Code Part A defines **Security Level 1** as:

“the level for which minimum appropriate protective security measures shall be maintained at all times.”

Security Level 2 *“means the level for which appropriate additional protective security measures shall be maintained for a period of time as a result of heightened risk of a security incident.”*

Security Level 3 *“means the level for which further specific protective security measures shall be maintained for a limited period of time when a security incident is probable or imminent, although it may not be possible to identify the specific target.”*

FROM THE MARITIME SECURITY COMMITTEE

The *Preservation of Public Security (No. 2) (Amendment No. 5) Regulations 2021* have been published as supplement no. 270 to the Gazette. These amendments repeal restrictions of Part 2 of the *Preservation of Public Security (No. 2) Regulations 2021* which were imposing a night-time curfew from 7pm to 6am every day until further notice for all persons and vessels (domestic vessels and small crafts).

Normal vigilance and usual security measures of Level 1 are now applied by all maritime operators and international vessels calling in Solomon Islands. As usual, please report any security incident to the Solomon Islands Maritime Authority (SIMA) at mrcc@solomon.com.sb or 977, and to the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force.

Shipping agents must inform their principals that the maritime security level in Solomon Islands has return to level 1.

CONTACT

For anything related to maritime security please contact Duri Qalorusa, Senior Officer, Maritime Security at SIMA duri.qalorusa@sima.gov.sb or visit SIMA's website at: <https://www.sima.gov.sb/shipping-ops-safety/maritime-security/>.