

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

NO. R. 6341

27 June 2025

MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 1951 (ACT NO. 57 OF 1951)**DRAFT MERCHANT SHIPPING (CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF FISHING VESSELS OF 24 METRES IN LENGTH AND OVER, CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF FISHING VESSELS OF LESS THAN 24 METERS, AND FISHER LABOUR WELFARE) REGULATIONS, 2025**

The Minister of Transport intends, in terms of section 356(2)(a) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1951 (Act No. 57 of 1951) and on the recommendation of the South African Maritime Safety Authority to promulgate Draft Merchant Shipping (Construction and Equipment on Fishing Vessels of 24 Metres in Length and Over and Construction and Equipment on Fishing Vessels of Less Than 24 Meters, and Fisher Labour Welfare) Regulations, 2025.

SAMSA is in the process of developing the Draft Regulations and seeks to engage stakeholders in the fishing industry during the developmental stages of the Draft Regulations. The engagement seeks to inform the final draft prior to submission to the Minister of Transport for processing and promulgation.

The Draft Regulations, will be published in the South African Maritime Safety Authority website at [Draft Regulations \(samsa.org.za\)](https://www.samsa.org.za) by no later than 05 July 2025.

Note: The Draft publication is a working draft and may contain errors, omissions being a draft document currently under construction.

Stakeholder engagements on the Draft Regulations will be held as follows:

DATE	REGION	VENUE
23 July 2025	Eastern Region (Gqeberha)	Southern Sun, The Marine Hotel, 6 th Avenue, Summerstrand, Gqeberha
30 July 2025	Western Region (Cape Town)	Southern Sun, Cape Sun, Strand Street, Cape Town

Upon conclusion of Drafting and development of the Draft Regulations, a stakeholder consultation process will be undertaken before the end of the year 2025, including publication of a Notice in the Government Gazette and hearings on the Draft Regulations, prior to submission to the Minister for promulgation.

Electronic copies of the Draft Regulations are accessible on the SAMSA website at <https://www.samsa.org.za/Pages/SAMSADraftRegulation.aspx> and may also be requested from Mr. Bulelani Ncanywa at bncanywa@samsa.org.za

Interested persons are hereby invited to submit written comments on these Draft Regulations on or before Friday **29 August 2025** to the Chief Executive Officer: SAMSA, for the attention of:

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