

**ETHIOPIAN
STANDARD**

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**Inland Water Transport Service
Requirement**

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Foreword

This Ethiopian Standard has been prepared under the direction of Technical Committee for Management system (TC 5) and published by the Institute of Ethiopian Standards (IES).

Draft of the standard has been presented by Ministry of Transport and Ethiopian Maritime Authority. Acknowledgment has been made for the organization for its concern to contribute to the effort of national standardization.

Draft for public comment

Inland Water Transport Service Requirement

1. Scope

This standard specifies requirements for an Inland Water Transport Service applicable to any operator that Provides inland and cross border water transport services including, but not limited to, passenger transport, freight transport, tourism and special purpose operations on inland waterways.

This Standard does not apply to vessels that have a gross weight of less than 1 ton, carriage capacity less than 6 passengers or 3 meter in length military vessels and vessels on government duty.

2. Normative Reference

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

3. Terms and Definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply:

- 3.1. Crew: is the group of people who work on and operate a ship, boat, aircraft or other vehicle.
- 3.2. Freight transport: the movement of goods and commodities by ships, boats, or other vessels over waterways like seas, oceans, lakes, and rivers.
- 3.3. Inland water services: refer to transportation, logistics, and related activities that take place on inland waterways, such as rivers, lakes and canals within a country.

- 3.4. Inland waterways: are navigable rivers, lakes, canals and other inland bodies of water that are used for transportation, commerce, or travel within a country.
- 3.5. Life-saving equipment: equipment used to protect human life in water which includes lifeboat, life-raft, lifebuoy and life jacket.
- 3.6. Operator any individual or an organization or company that Provides inland and cross border water transport services.
- 3.7. Passenger vessel is a ship or boat that is designed and used primarily to carry people (passengers) rather than cargo.
- 3.8. Safe speed: a speed at which the vessel can take proper and effective action to avoid collision and stop within a distance appropriate to the prevailing circumstances and conditions.
- 3.9. Skipper is the person in charge of a boat or ship.
- 3.10. Special purpose operations: vessels that are engaged in research, expeditions and survey, training of marine personnel, fish factory not engaged in catching, or processing other living resources of the sea.
- 3.11. Special purpose vessel: a type of ship that is specifically designed and built to perform a particular function or task that regular vessels are not suited for.
- 3.12. Tourism operation: activities involved in organizing and managing travel and leisure experiences for tourists.
- 3.13. Vessel: Every craft of any description used or capable of being used on the water.
- 3.14. Vessel operator: An individual or company responsible for the day-to-day management, navigation, and operation of a ship or boat.
- 3.15. Vessel registration: Applying for and getting a registration certificate and a registration number that must be displayed on the outside of your vessel.
- 3.16. Tourist vessel: A boat or ship specifically designed or operated to carry tourists for recreational, sightseeing, or leisure purposes on water.
- 3.17. Waterway: Any inland water open to navigation.

4. General requirements

- 4.1. The service provider shall be licensed and registered by the responsible government body.
- 4.2. The vessel shall carry a certificate of seaworthiness.
- 4.3. All vessels operating in inland waterways shall comply with the national regulations.

- 4.4. All vessels shall be marked in a permanent, clear and visible manner.
- 4.5. All vessels shall operate in a safe manner and shall be equipped with all safety equipment.
- 4.6. All vessels shall consider the weather condition before departing the dock.
- 4.7. All operators/service provider shall comply with the environmental and pollution prevention regulation.
- 4.8. All skippers and crew shall be trained and certified.
- 4.9. All vessels shall operate in accordance with its designated carriage capacity of passenger and cargo.
- 4.10. The vessel operators shall notify any causality or incident to the responsible government body.

5. Specific Requirements

5.1. Licensing and registration

- 5.1.1. All vessel used in the inland water transport service shall be registered and obtain a license before starting any service or operation.
- 5.1.2. All vessel owner, individual or organization engaged in cross border water transport business on trans-boundary rivers and lakes shall be registered by the responsible government body.
- 5.1.3. All foreign vessels engaged in cross border service shall comply with the regulations provided by the regulatory body.

5.2. Certificate of seaworthiness

- 5.2.1. The vessel shall carry a certificate of seaworthiness.
- 5.2.2. All vessel should carry a certificate of seaworthiness at all times while operating.
- 5.2.3. The certificate of seaworthiness shall include a record of equipment carried onboard and shall have related information attached to it.

5.3. Naming and Marking

- 5.3.1. The marking of the vessel shall include the name of the vessel marked in both directions of the front body of the vessel.
- 5.3.2. The marking shall include the serial number and net registration weight of the vessel posted at peculiar place on the vessel.

5.3.3. All domestic vessel shall fly the national flag of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on the left side of the vessel, whereas any foreign vessel sailing in the sovereign territory of Ethiopia shall hoist Ethiopian flag on the right side of the vessel.

5.4. Safety

- 5.4.1. The Vessel shall be equipped with life-saving and firefighting equipment in compliance with regulations set by the responsible government body.
- 5.4.2. The Vessel shall post safety rules and instructions in a conspicuous place.
- 5.4.3. The vessels shall operate at a safe speed.
- 5.4.4. All vessel shall be inspected and examined annually to ensure safe operational conditions.
- 5.4.5. All Vessels operating in night time must comply with the requirement of navigation light set by the responsible government body.
- 5.4.6. The vessels engaged in any service shall be safely afloat either at berth or at safe anchorage.
- 5.4.7. All Vessels with a length of 70 meters or more shall carry lifeboats (lifeboats) or life rafts unless authorized by the responsible government body.
- 5.4.8. All vessels over 50 meters and less than 70 meters long shall be equipped with life raft.
- 5.4.9. All vessel carrying passengers, livestock and cargo together shall do so in a segregated manner.
- 5.4.10. All vessel shall carry a written information regarding the stability of a vessel.
- 5.4.11. The vessel shall instruct and communicate safety rules and precaution with passengers before departure.
- 5.4.12. All vessels passing through stormy weather condition shall navigate with extreme cautions, personnel safety and comply with the storm procedure set by the regulatory body.
- 5.4.13. All vessels shall take maximum precautions while carrying a dangerous cargo from causing harm or contamination.

5.5. Environmental Pollution

- 5.5.1. All vessels shall not dispose any fuel oil mixture, plastic, chemical, liquid or dry waste/garbage into the inland water area.
- 5.5.2. The vessels shall collect and dispose solid waste including garbage and plastics from the vessel into a designated area.

- 5.5.3. The vessel shall not discharge untreated sewage and sludge into the water body and the environment.
- 5.5.4. The Vessels fitted with toilets shall be equipped with a holding tank, a marine sanitation device or temporary holding tanker for human wastes.
- 5.5.5. The vessels shall not produce noise above levels that exceed permissible limits set by the responsible body.
- 5.5.6. Motorized vessels shall be equipped with engines that meet engine emission standards set by regulatory bodies.
- 5.5.7. The vessel shall not use harmful anti-fouling paints that can leach into the water and harm aquatic life.
- 5.5.8. The vessels that provide food and potable water services shall adhere to water and food safety standards established by relevant government bodies.
- 5.5.9. Foreign vessel navigating through a country's waterway shall comply with the pollution prevention regulations set by the responsible government body.

5.6. Training requirements

- 5.6.1. All vessels shall be manned with trained and certified skipper and crew.
- 5.6.2. All vessel crew with technical tasks shall be trained and certified in competence issued by the responsible government body.
- 5.6.3. All vessel staff including skipper and crew shall take trainings of basic safety, Ability to manage crowd and protect passenger from danger, stability knowledge on carriage of passengers and cargo, aware of environmental Pollution and swimming.
- 5.6.4. All vessel staff shall have evidence of Medical fitness to work on the vessel.
- 5.6.5. All vessel staff engaged in tourism and passenger operation shall be certified in customer service training.

5.7. Carrying capacity

- 5.7.1. All vessels shall not carry passengers or cargo beyond the carrying capacity set by the government body and stated on the certificate of seaworthiness.
- 5.7.2. The vessel shall post a notice indicating the maximum number of passengers and cargo permitted and display at the access to each deck and space.

5.8. Causality or incident

- 5.8.1. All vessels, in the event of causality or incident involving the vessel shall notify the responsible government body.
- 5.8.2. In the event of causality or incident, the notification shall be as per the format provided by the regulatory body.

Draft for public Comment

Organization and Objectives

The Institute of Ethiopian Standards (IES) is the national standards body of Ethiopia. IES is re-named by the proclamation number 1263/2021, from Ethiopian Standards Agency (ESA) to Institute of Ethiopian standards, with the mandate given by the regulation Number, 193/2010 and proclamation number, 1263/2021.

IES's objectives are:

- ❖ Develop Ethiopian standards and establish a system that enable to check whether goods and service are in compliance with the required standards,
- ❖ Facilitate the country's technology transfer through the use of standards,
- ❖ Develop national standards for local products and services so as to make them competitive in the international market.
- ❖ Conduct standards related research and provide training and technical support.

Ethiopian Standards

The Ethiopian Standards are developed by national technical committees which are composed of different stakeholders consisting of educational and research institutes, governmental organizations, certification, inspection, and testing organizations, regulatory bodies, consumer association etc. The requirements and/or recommendations contained in Ethiopian Standards are consensus based that reflects the interest of the TC representatives and also of comments received from the public and other sources. Ethiopian Standards are approved by the National Standardization Council and are kept under continuous review after publication and updated regularly to take account of latest scientific and technological changes.

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