

Pakistan Consolidated Maritime Framework

A comprehensive compilation of merchant marine, economic security, port operational, and naval strategic doctrines.

1. Merchant Marine Shipping Policy (Incentives & Commercial Framework)

Source Agency: Ministry of Maritime Affairs (MoMA)

This pillar addresses the commercial viability of Pakistan's shipping sector, introducing amendments valid through 2030 to encourage fleet expansion and reduce freight losses to foreign carriers:

- **Tax & Duty Exemptions:** Exemptions on customs duties, general sales tax (GST), and withholding tax on the import of ships and vessels registered under the Pakistan Flag.
- **PNSC Monopoly & Liberalization:** Empowers the Pakistan National Shipping Corporation (PNSC) while establishing a framework for public-private partnerships to increase domestic merchant tonnage.
- **Gadani Modernization:** Outlines infrastructural investments to upgrade the Gadani Shipbreaking Yard to meet Hong Kong Convention environmental standards.

2. Blue Economy Strategic Objectives

Source Agency: National Security Division (NSP 2022–2026)

Integrated into Section VII (Economic Security) of the National Security Policy, this framework elevates maritime assets from passive infrastructure to active national economic drivers:

- **Transshipment Hubs:** Explicit directives to fully leverage Karachi Port, Port Qasim, and Gwadar Port as seamless cargo gateways for Central Asian Republics (CARs) and Western China.
- **Coastal Tourism & Coastal Development:** Developing designated eco-tourism zones along the Makran Coastline while preserving maritime ecosystems.
- **Socio-Economic Elevation:** Allocating localized funding, such as the Maritime Education Endowment Fund, to support coastal communities.

3. Operational Port Laws, Flag Rules & Seafarer Welfare

Source Agency: Directorate General Ports & Shipping (DG P&S;)

This component governs technical execution, safety audits, international convention compliance, and seafarer administrative procedures:

- **Flag State & Port State Control:** Standardizing routine inspections according to IMO rules to ensure foreign and domestic ships maintain safety standards.
- **Seafarer Identity & Rights:** Managing the issuance of Machine-Readable Seafarers' Identity Documents (MR-SID) in coordination with NADRA and the Government Shipping Office.
- **Digitized Clearing:** Implementing advanced Vessel Traffic Management Systems (VTMS) and single-window custom clearances to maximize port throughput.

4. Naval Doctrine & Coastal Defense Policy

Source Agency: Pakistan Navy & National Institute of Maritime Affairs (NIMA)

The security dimension ensures that Pakistan's economic interests within its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) remain resilient against traditional and non-traditional threats:

- **SLOC Protection:** Safeguarding the Sea Lines of Communication in the North Arabian Sea to guarantee unhindered global and national trade flows.
- **EEZ Surveillance:** Continuous patrolling and monitoring to prevent illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, smuggling, and piracy.
- **Hydrographic Excellence:** Charting and mapping maritime boundaries to support navigational safety and resource exploration.