

# Pakistan Maritime Policy 2022

## Complete Framework Components & Strategic Pillars

The modern maritime policy architecture of Pakistan operates as an overarching directive enacted under Section VII (Economic Security/Blue Economy) of the National Security Policy 2022–2026. This comprehensive strategic framework unifies regulatory, defense, and economic modules across the Ministry of Maritime Affairs (MoMA) and the Pakistan Navy. Below is the complete breakdown of the five core policy components.

### 1. Strategic Transshipment & Port Infrastructure Modernization

- **The Pivot:** Digitizing and upgrading Karachi Port, Port Qasim, and Gwadar Port into automated transshipment hubs.
- **Operational Control:** Transitioning ports to smart shipping infrastructure, implementing modernized Vessel Traffic Management Systems (VTMS) at Port Qasim, and removing regulatory bottlenecks to lower turnaround times.
- **Regional Connectivity:** Exploiting CPEC and trade linkages to position coastal lines as primary cargo pathways for Central Asian Republics (CARs) and Western China.

### 2. Merchant Shipping & National Fleet Expansion

- **The Fleet Incentive:** Maximizing the capacity of the Pakistan National Shipping Corporation (PNSC) fleet under long-term merchant shipping exemptions to save billions spent annually on foreign freight carriers.
- **Bunkering Framework:** Launching automated offshore refueling/bunkering customs rules to turn Pakistani ports into operational pit stops for commercial vessels.

### 3. Coastal Tourism & Sustainable Marine Fisheries

- **Zoning Rules:** Developing Aquaculture Industrial Zones and localized five-year fisheries plans to safely boost seafood export capabilities.
- **Eco-Tourism:** Formulating safe maritime boundaries to allow hospitality and ecotourism growth across Balochistan and Sindh coastlines without harming vulnerable ecosystems.

## 4. Marine Resource Exploration (Exclusive Economic Zone)

- **Hydrocarbon Mapping:** Driving local and foreign partnerships for seismic mapping and drilling of offshore oil, natural gas, and sub-sea mineral deposits within the expanded 350-nautical-mile Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

## 5. Green Shipping & Environmental Compliance

- **Ship Recycling Reforms:** Modernizing the Gadani Shipbreaking Yard under a Rs. 12 billion upgrade plan to align operations directly with the Hong Kong Convention and international eco-safety standards.
- **Carbon Neutrality:** Aligning port state rules with International Maritime Organization (IMO) conventions targeting greenhouse gas reductions and maritime chemical dump control.