

PAKISTAN MARITIME POLICY & DIRECTIVES (2022)

A Consolidated Briefing Document on Pakistan's Active Maritime Frameworks, National Security Integration, and the 2022 Port Restructuring Reforms.

Prepared For: Executive Presentation

Topic: Pakistan Blue Economy & Marine Regulations 2022

Status: Compiled Official Framework Documents

Executive Context

As established by federal ministries and naval authorities, there is no single, standalone public book officially titled 'Pakistan Maritime Policy 2022'. Instead, what legally and operationally constitutes Pakistan's 2022 maritime mandate is a vital network of separate legislative frameworks, executive task force orders, and environmental acts. This presentation document synthesizes these components into three cohesive sections for clear administrative review.

1. Maritime Directives in the National Security Policy (NSP) 2022–2026

The Federal Government integrated its primary 2022 maritime strategic directives directly into **Section VII (Economic Security)** of the National Security Policy of Pakistan. This alignment elevates maritime affairs into a core pillar of state intelligence and fiscal survival through the following mandates:

- **The Transshipment Hub Pivot:** Legally mandates Port Qasim, Karachi Port, and Gwadar Port to fully modernize and transition into automated transshipment hubs. The explicit target is securing freight routes for the Central Asian Republics (CARs) and Western China.
- **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) Monetization:** Establishes rigorous legal and regulatory blueprints to safely map, exploit, and protect deep-sea fishing reserves and under-utilized marine minerals.
- **Blue Economy Governance:** Introduces synchronized civil-military coordination mechanisms to fast-track regional maritime trade infrastructure and resolve inter-departmental hurdles.

2. The 2022 Port & Shipping Restructuring Reforms

In late 2022, the Prime Minister's Maritime Reforms Task Force introduced operational directives to heavily overhaul current shipping networks. Rather than drafting delayed standalone acts, they executed these reforms via immediate statutory actions:

- **The National Ports Master Plan:** Enforces international compliance by structurally aligning Pakistan's terminal protocols and berth depth expansions directly with modern International Maritime Organization (IMO) standards.
- **Uniform Port Tariff System:** Systematically targets and eliminates fragmented port fees across various local terminal operators. This uniform system makes Pakistani waters competitive for large-scale international liner shipping companies.
- **2022 Customs Rules for Bunkering & Transshipment:** Legally authorizes and streamlines offshore ship-fueling (bunkering) services. This critical regulatory update enables Pakistani coastlines to operate as a vital regional maritime refueling stopover.

3. National Hazardous Waste Management Policy 2022 (Maritime Annexes)

Enacted in late 2022 by the Ministry of Climate Change in close partnership with the Ministry of Maritime Affairs (MoMA), these strict clauses serve to aggressively govern commercial vessel liabilities and environmental safety in territorial waters:

- **Gadani Shipbreaking Yard Green Compliance:** Brings all heavy metal dismantling operations under international environmental covenants, forcing local shipbreakers to comply with strict safety and zero-runoff laws.
- **Marine Discharge Sanctions:** Sets up heavily amplified monetary and legal penalties for accidental or intentional chemical dumping, bilge water releases, and toxic discharge inside Pakistan's exclusive contiguous maritime zones.
- **Eco-Zone Monitoring:** Mandates regular ecological audits of major ports to balance aggressive commercial container handling with the long-term biological protection of coastal mangrove ecosystems.