

Rules, Procedures and Conditions for the Announcement of Emergency Maritime Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Zones

Whereas Section 28 of the National Maritime Interests Protection Act, B.E. 2562 (2019) stipulates that the Thai Maritime Enforcement Command Center shall have the authority to announce emergency maritime disaster prevention and mitigation zones for the prevention and mitigation of maritime disasters.

By virtue of Section 28 (1) of the National Maritime Interests Protection Act, B.E. 2562 (2019) the Thai Maritime Enforcement Command Center, with the approval of the Ministry of Finance, hereby prescribes rules, procedures and conditions for the announcement of emergency maritime disaster prevention and mitigation zones as follows:

Clause 1 This Rules is called the "Rules, Procedures and Conditions for the Announcement of Emergency Maritime Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Zones".

Clause 2 In this Rules,
"disaster prevention and mitigation zone" means a maritime zone where a disaster has occurred or is expected to occur in the near future and immediate actions are needed to mitigate impacts of the imminent disasters;

"maritime disaster" means a disaster that is caused by nature or human or animal, including a disaster that occurs as a result of a maritime activity that takes place in a maritime zone which can cause harm to people's lives, bodies and properties or has impacts on the national maritime interests.

Clause 3 When a maritime disaster that has occurred or is expected to occur in a maritime zone exceeds the capacity of government agencies or is not under the responsibility of any government agency or when there is a need for integrated operations or any other necessity as determined by the Thai Maritime Enforcement Command Center or in cases of emergency or urgency, the Director-General of the Thai Maritime Enforcement Command Center or an assigned person shall announce a temporary emergency maritime disaster prevention and mitigation zone within the prescribed period of time as deemed necessary and appropriate, in order to prevent and mitigate the impending disaster. The announcement shall contain the following details:

(1) Type of maritime disaster such as the capsizing, sinking or collision of vessels, oil leak or any other incident that may have impacts on the national maritime interests.

(2) Date, month, and year that a maritime disaster has occurred or is expected to occur or is expected to end. In the event that a disaster situation has not yet ended, the announcement must state that "the disaster has not ended". Once the maritime disaster has ended, the end date must also be announced.

(3) Area of a disaster or expected disaster. Specify the area in term of geographic coordinate system (latitude and longitude) for precise identification of the disaster location.

(4) Damage details. Specify the damages, their impacts or imminent impacts such as damages to people's lives, properties, fishing areas, natural resources or the environment.

For implementation of integrated operations between government agencies, once an announcement of emergency maritime disaster prevention and mitigation zones has been made, a copy of the announcement must be immediately sent to relevant government agencies for acknowledgement.

Clause 4 This Rules shall come into force on the date of its announcement onward.

Issued on 7 May 2020.

General [Signature]

(Prayut Chan-ocha)

Director-General of the Thai Maritime Enforcement Command Center