

## MERCHANT SHIPPING (MUSTERS) RULES 2010



### ARRANGEMENT OF RULES

*Rule:*

1. Ships to which Rules Apply.
2. Classification of Ships.
3. Muster List.
4. Muster Stations and Emergency Signals for Passengers.
5. Training.
6. Revocation.
7. Interpretation.
8. Citation.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

AGRICULTURAL MECHANIZATION

S. I. 14 of 2010

MERCHANTS SHIPPING ACT

(2007 No. 27 )

Merchant Shipping (Musters) Rules 2010

[9th March, 2010]

Commence-  
Ment.

**In exercise of the powers conferred upon me by section 435 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2007 and of all other powers enabling me in that behalf, I, IBRAHIM ISA BIO, Minister of Transportation, hereby make the following Rules:**

1. These Rules shall apply to—

(a) Nigerian ships; and

(b) other ships while they are within any port in Nigeria:

Ships to  
which Rules  
Apply.

Provided that these Rules shall not apply to a ship by reason of her being with in a port in Nigeria if she would not have been in any such port but for stress of weather or any other circumstances that neither the master, nor the owner, nor the chaterer (if any) of the ship could have prevented or forestalled.

2. For the purposes of these Rules, the ships to which these Rules apply shall be arranged in the same classes in which ships are arranged for the purposes of the Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances) Rules, and any reference in these Rules to a ship of any class shall be construed accordingly.

Classification  
of Ships.

3.— (I) The master of every ship of Classes I, II, III, V, V (A) and VI shall prepare a muster list showing in respect of each member of the crew the special duties which are allotted to him in the event of an emergency and the station (hereinafter referred to as his "emergency station") to which he is to go in that event.

Muster List.

(2) The muster list shall specify definite signals, to be made on the whistle or siren, for calling all the crew to their emergency stations, and in passenger ships one of the signals so specified shall be the signal required by rule 5(2) of these Rules.

(3) In ships of Class I, and in ships of 45 meters in length or over of Classes V, V(A) and VI, the signals mentioned in paragraph (2) of this rule shall be supplemented by other means of warning which shall be electrically operated and which shall be capable of being operated from the bridge.

(4) The muster list shall also specify the means of indicating when the ship is to be abandoned.

(5) The muster list shall show the duties assigned to the different members of the crew in connection with—

(a) the closing of the watertight doors, fire doors, side-scuttles and valves and the closing mechanisms of scuppers, ash-shoots or other similar openings in the ship's side;

(b) the equipping of the boats and other life-saving appliances;

(c) the launching of the boats and liferafts attached to davits or to other launching appliances;

(d) the general preparation of any other boats and of other life-saving appliances;

(e) the muster of the passengers (if there are any) ; and

(f) the extinction of fire.

(6) The duty of seeing that the boats and other life-saving appliances are at all times ready for use, shall be specified in the muster list as the duty of one or more officers.

(7) The muster list shall show the several duties assigned to the members of the stewards' department in relation to the passengers at a time of emergency.

(8) These duties shall include-

(a) warning the passengers' ;

(b) seeing that they are suitably clad and have put on their lifejackets in proper manner;

(c) assembling the passengers at muster stations ;

(d) keeping order in the passages and on the stairways and generally controlling the movements of the passengers; and

(e) seeing that a supply of blankets is taken to the life-boats.

(8) The muster list shall be prepared (or, if a new list is not necessary, revised) after the agreement with the crew has been signed and before the ship proceeds to sea, and shall be dated and signed by the master.

(9) If, after the muster list has been prepared, any change takes place in the crew which necessitates an alteration in the muster list, the master shall either revise the list or prepare a new list.

(10) Copies of the muster list shall be posted in several parts of the ship, and in particular in the crew's quarters, before the ship proceeds to sea, and shall be kept so posted while the ship is at sea. .

4.—(1) Muster stations for all passengers in the event of an emergency shall be appointed and the position of those stations and the meaning 'of signals affecting passengers, with precise instructions as' to what passengers are to do, shall be clearly stated in English and such other languages as are appropriate on cards posted in their cabins and in conspicuous places in other passenger quarters.

(2) The emergency signal for summoning passengers to their muster stations shall be a succession of seven or more short blasts followed by one long blast on the whistle or Siren.

(3) In ships of Class I the signal mentioned in paragraph (2) of this rule shall be supplemented by other means of warning, audible throughout the ship, which shall be electrically operated and capable of being operated from the bridge.

5. — (1) In ships of Class I, a muster of the crew shall be held before the ship leaves her final port of departure in Nigeria, and if any passengers are embarked at that or any other port, a muster of the passengers shall be held within twenty-four hours after leaving the port in question.

Training

(2) In ships of Classes I, II and III, musters of the crew shall take place at intervals of not more than seven days, when practicable, to ensure that the crew understand and are drilled in the duties assigned to them in the event of an emergency.

(3) In ships of Classes V, V (a), VI, VII and VII(a), and In ships of Class IX of 20 meters in length or over which proceed beyond home trade limits, musters of the crew shall take place at intervals of not more than fourteen days, and if more than 25 per cent of the crew have been replaced at any port, one such muster shall take place within twenty-four hours of leaving that port. In all other ships of Class IX the master shall take steps to ensure that the crew understand the uses of the life-saving equipment and fire appliances on board, and know where they are kept.

(4) Different groups of boats shall be used in turn at successive boat drills so that every lifeboat shall be swung out at least once a month and, if practicable and reasonable, lowered at least once every four months. The musters and inspections shall be so arranged that the crew thoroughly understand, and are practised in, the duties they have to perform, and that all life-saving appliances and fire appliances, with the gear appertaining to them, are always ready for immediate use.

(5) The master shall take steps to ensure that the crews are properly instructed in the handling and operation of the liferafts on board.

6. The Merchant Shipping (Musters) Rules 1963 are hereby revoked.

Revocation.

7. In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires—  
"muster", includes a boat-drill and a fire-drill.

Interpretation.

**B 480**

Citation.

**8. These Rules may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Musters) Rules 2010.**

**MADE at Abuja this 9th day of March, 20 10.**

**IBRAHIM ISA BIO**  
*Minister of Transportation*