



SEMAPHORE

Newsletter of the Maritime Law

Association of Australia and New Zealand



New UAE Maritime Law Heralded

A “robust and comprehensive framework that better aligns with international standards, offering clarity on liability limits and the obligations of marine stakeholders” is how local lawyers have described the recently-introduced United Arab Emirates (UAE) Maritime Law.

Dubai-based Saif Almobideen and Mazin El Amin – respectively partner and managing associate in global law firm, Stephenson Harwood – have penned a briefing note on the legislation, which took effect earlier this year via [Federal Decree Law No 43 of 2023](#).

“This announcement is welcomed by industry stakeholders who have been anticipating these changes to enhance regulatory clarity and operational efficiency within the maritime sector,” they stated.

“The new law brings significant amendments, particularly in relation to the registration of vessels and the provisions for precautionary arrest, aligning UAE maritime regulations with international standards.

“In this [briefing note](#), which forms part of our ongoing series on the new Maritime Law, we examine the scope, limitations and procedural aspects under the New Maritime Law, comparing them with the repealed Federal Law No 26 of 1981 (the “Old Maritime Law”) and international conventions such as the LLMC [Convention on the Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims] 1996 Protocol.”

Employing over 1300 people in eight offices worldwide, Stephenson Harwood lists marine and international trade as one of its areas of specialisation.

December 2024

