

however, specified 72 COLREGS provisions are not applicable to a vessel of special construction or purpose if the Coast Guard determines that the vessel cannot comply fully with those requirements without interfering with the special function of the vessel.¹

The owner, builder, operator, or agent of a special construction or purpose vessel may apply to the Coast Guard District Office in which the vessel is being built or operated for a determination that compliance with alternative requirements is justified,² and the Chief of the Prevention Division would then issue the applicant a certificate of alternative compliance (COAC) if he or she determines that the vessel cannot comply fully with 72 COLREGS light, shape, and sound signal provisions without interference with the vessel's special function.³ If the Coast Guard issues a COAC, it must publish notice of this action in the **Federal Register**.⁴

¹ 33 U.S.C. 1605.

² 33 CFR 81.5.

³ 33 CFR 81.9.

⁴ 33 U.S.C. 1605(c) and 33 CFR 81.18.

The Chief of Prevention Division, Southeast District, U.S. Coast Guard, certifies that the M/V ISLA DEL ENCANTO (O.N. 1345510) is a vessel of special construction or purpose, and that, with respect to the positions of the forward and aft masthead lights, it is not possible to comply fully with the requirements of the provisions enumerated in the 72 COLREGS, without interfering with the normal operation, construction, or design of the vessel's car deck. The Chief of Prevention Division, Southeast District, U.S. Coast Guard, further finds and certifies that the lights are configured in closest possible compliance with the applicable provisions of the 72 COLREGS.⁵

This notice is issued under authority of 33 U.S.C. 1605(c) and 33 CFR 81.18.

Dated: August 20, 2025.

Sarah J. Geoffrion,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Chief, Prevention Division, Southeast Coast Guard District.

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⁵ 33 U.S.C. 1605(a); 33 CFR 81.9.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Uganda for Cooperation in the Examination of Protection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of Agreement.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security is publishing the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Uganda for Cooperation in the Examination of Protection Requests, signed at Kampala on July 29, 2025 (the "Agreement"). The text of the Agreement is set out below.

Joseph N. Mazzara,

Acting General Counsel, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

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THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

**AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
FOR
COOPERATION IN THE EXAMINATION OF PROTECTION
REQUESTS**



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Uganda, hereinafter referred to individually as a Party or collectively as the Parties,

DESIRING TO ensure the dignified, safe, and timely transfer from the United States of America to the Republic of Uganda of third country nationals present in the United States of America who may seek protection against return to their home country or country of former habitual residence.

AGREE as follows:

ARTICLE 1

1. The Government of the United States of America shall in its complete discretion propose to the Government of the Republic of Uganda the transfer of third-country nationals present in the United States of America who may seek protection against return to their home country or country of former habitual residence.
2. The Government of the Republic of Uganda shall in its complete discretion consider accepting in whole or in part a proposal made by the Government of the United States of America in accordance with paragraph 1.

ARTICLE 2

Both Parties' actions under this Agreement shall be in accordance with their obligations under the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, done at Geneva on July 28, 1951; the Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, done at New York on January 31, 1967; the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, adopted in New York on December 10, 1984; and any other respective international obligations, national constitutions, laws, regulations, and immigration and visa policies of the Parties, including consideration by the Government of the Republic of Uganda of requests by these third country nationals for asylum, refugee protection, or equivalent temporary protection.



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

ARTICLE 3

1. The Government of the Republic of Uganda agrees not to return any person transferred to the Republic of Uganda by the Government of the United States of America to their home country or country of former habitual residence until a final decision has been made regarding any pending protection claims.
2. The Government of the Republic of Uganda shall determine a procedure, consistent with its relevant obligations, to resolve the status of those who may abandon pending claims or fail to seek protection.
3. The Government of the United States of America shall not transfer unaccompanied minors pursuant to this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4

1. The Parties shall develop operating procedures to assist with the implementation of this Agreement.
2. In the event of a conflict of interpretation or implementation, the Parties commit to resolve such matters through dialogue or diplomatic channels.

ARTICLE 5

1. This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature.
2. Either Party may terminate or suspend this Agreement at any time by notifying the other Party in writing.
3. The Parties may agree in writing to any amendments to this Agreement, and such amendments shall constitute an integral part of this Agreement, consistent with any applicable legal requirements.
4. Nothing set forth in this Agreement shall be interpreted in such a way that commits the disbursement or allocation of funds by the Parties. The implementation of this Agreement shall be subject to the availability of funds and technical capacity of each Party.



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized by their respective governments, have signed this Agreement in duplicate in the English language.

DONE at KAMPALA on this.....^{29th}..... day of July, 2025.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Handwritten signature of William L. Rugg, representing the United States of America.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**

Handwritten signature of Chipserin, representing the Republic of Uganda.