

# / BAHAMAS: SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO PILOTS IN THE BAHAMAS

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## **Advisory to Members**

*The Association has had reference to the IG P&I on this advisory, which was prepared with the assistance of correspondents Baycourt Chambers and Skuld New York.*

Members may be aware of media reports with respect to a dispute between marine pilots and local authorities in the Bahamas.

As a result of this situation, there has been a mass resignation of pilots who are now seeking to form a new company locally to provide pilot services. The licensing and status of this new venture are presently not certain.

The immediate result is that the number of available pilots will apparently be reduced significantly when the resignations take effect on 28 March 2014.

This is likely to have a significant delaying effect as the prospective reduced pilot availability will inevitably affect port operations.

The International Group is monitoring the situation and the Association will release further information when appropriate.

In the meantime, Members are advised to relay this information to all vessels that are going to call in the Bahamas going forward, and to ensure that extra care is taken for all vessel movements under pilotage.

Should Members have further queries, they are asked to contact the Association:  
[lossprevention@skuld.com](mailto:lossprevention@skuld.com)

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