

RUSSIAN MARITIME REGISTER OF SHIPPING

**GENERAL REGULATIONS
FOR THE CLASSIFICATION
AND OTHER ACTIVITY**

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GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR THE CLASSIFICATION AND OTHER ACTIVITY

1 GENERAL

1.1 DEFENITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Definitions and explanations relating to general terminology of the rules and other normative documents of Russian Maritime Register of Shipping (hereinafter referred to as "the Register, RS") are given in Part I "General Regulations for Technical Supervision" of the Rules for Technical Supervision during Construction of Ships and Manufacture of Materials and Products for Ships.

Some of the said definitions used in these General Regulations for the Classification and Other Activity are given bellow.

Rules (RS rules) are a code of the normative and technical requirements for items of technical supervision.

Items of technical supervision (items of supervision) are ships and other floating facilities, fixed offshore platforms, other offshore installations specified in 1.2.1, as well as containers, products, materials, works, services and processes within the RS terms of reference.

Technical supervision is checking of conformity of items of supervision with the RS requirements during:

- review and approval (agreement) of technical documentation;
- survey of items of supervision at manufacture, construction, service stages, including conversion, modernization and repair.

RS requirements are requirements of the RS rules, international conventions and other documents of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), governments having granted RS the relevant authorization, as well as additional requirements.

Additional requirements are the requirements caused by the item features or its operational conditions, which are not stipulated by the RS rules and other RS normative documents imposed by the Register to ensure the safety of items of technical supervision. Under safety, in this particular case, is meant safe navigation of ships and offshore installations, safety of life at sea, safe carriage of goods, environmental protection.

Equivalence is the use of equipment, material, arrangements, device or design solutions other than those prescribed by the international statutory requirements or approved by the Administration in compliance with the requirements of SOLAS and MARPOL Conventions.

Deviation is the use of equipment, material, arrangements, device or design solutions other than those prescribed by the classification requirements of the RS rules and duly approved by the Register.

1.2 CLASSIFICATION AND OTHER ACTIVITY OF THE REGISTER

1.2.1 The Register is a non-commercial organization performing classification and survey of sea-going ships and ships of river-sea navigation, as well as mobile offshore drilling units (MODU), fixed offshore platforms (FOP) of different purposes, floating offshore oil and gas production units (FPU), subsea pipelines (SP) and other offshore installations (hereinafter referred to as "the ships and offshore installations").

1.2.2 Besides, being authorized by the government of the Russian Federation (RF) and by the governments of other countries to act on their behalf, the Register carries out surveys within its terms of reference for compliance with the requirements of international conventions, agreements and contracts to which the above governments are parties, and issues relevant documents.

1.2.3 The Register is a member to International Association of Classification Societies (IACS) and uses IACS resolutions in its activity.

1.2.4 The Register maintains a quality management system complying with the requirements of IACS and with the applicable requirements of ISO 9001 which is confirmed by the relevant certificates.

1.2.5 The Register establishes technical requirements ensuring safe operation of ships and offshore installations in accordance with their purpose, safety of life at sea and safe carriage of goods by sea and inland waterways as well as pollution prevention from ships; it carries out surveys for compliance with the above requirements, assigns class to ships and offshore installations, determines the net and gross tonnage of sea-going ships and offshore installations and the tonnage measurement characteristics of inland navigation ships in its registry.

1.2.6 The Register activity is based on the rules published by that body and is aimed at determining whether the items of technical supervision comply with the rules and with additional requirements.

1.2.7 The application and fulfillment of the rules and additional requirements are the obligation of design bureaus, shipowners, shipyards and manufacturers of materials and products to which the requirements of the rules apply.

1.2.8 The interpretation of the requirements of the RS rules and other normative documents is within the competence of the Register only.

1.2.9 The Register activity does not substitute for the state surveillance of merchant shipping carried out by both the federal body of executive power responsible for transport and the federal body of executive power responsible for fisheries, nor does it interfere with technical control by shipowners, shipyards or firms (manufacturers).

1.2.10 Classification activity of the Register covers the following:

- .1** development and publication of rules and other normative documents;
- .2** review and approval (agreement) of technical documentation;
- .3** surveys of ships and offshore installations during construction, surveys of products at manufacture and repair as well as surveys of materials for shipbuilding during manufacture thereof;
- .4** surveys of ships and offshore installations in service, including surveys during conversion, modernization and repair;
- .5** assignment, renewal, reinstatement and reassignment of class;
- .6** drawing up and issue of the RS certificates;
- .7** maintenance of records on ships and offshore installations;
- .8** publication of Register of Ships.

1.2.11 Other activity of the Register covers:

- .1** surveys of ships and offshore installations during construction and in service (including surveys at conversion, modernization and repair), surveys of products at manufacture and repair as well as surveys of materials for shipbuilding during manufacture for compliance with the provisions of international conventions and agreements;
- .2** review, investigation and recording of accidents aboard ships and offshore installations;
- .3** initiative surveys of ships;
- .4** other activity not connected with classification of ships and offshore installations.

1.2.12 The Register carries out classification of the following types of ships and offshore installations during their design, under construction, repair, in service and at recycling:

.1 passenger ships, cargo ships, oil tankers, tugs and other self-propelled ships with the main engines having an output of 55 kW and upwards and non-self-propelled ships of 80 gross tonnage and upwards, including nuclear ships and floating facilities, nuclear support vessels;

.2 MODU, FOP of different purposes, FPU, SP and other offshore installations;

.3 pleasure craft, sailing racing yachts and small craft used for commercial purposes;

.4 auxiliary and other ships of war.

1.2.13 The Register carries out surveys of ship refrigerating plants from the point of view of ship's safety, safe carriage of goods, absence of the ozone-destructive effect of refrigerants upon the environment, as well as the classification of ship refrigerating plants.

1.2.14 The Register carries out surveys of ship cargo-handling gear of 1 t lifting capacity and upwards.

1.2.15 On special agreement, the Register may carry out surveys of ships, installations or arrangements not specified in 1.2.12 — 1.2.14.

1.2.16 The Register is also involved in other types of activities, which include:

.1 survey of ships and offshore installations classed by the Register, in connection with accidents, after detentions by the Flag State and/or Port State;

.2 review of marine operations designs and technical supervision during execution thereof for offshore installations;

.3 design technical appraisal, technical supervision during testing, examination of freight containers with gross mass of 10 t and more, and their approval for international transportation by different modes of transport, according to the international agreements of the Russian Federation, surveys of containers in service;

.4 design technical appraisal of portable tanks with gross mass of 10 t and more, including tank containers intended for transportation of goods, including dangerous ones, by sea, river, rail and road transport, and technical supervision during manufacture, testing and in service, and determination of their compliance with the national and international requirements, and the requirements of the international agreements on transportation of dangerous goods;

.5 design technical appraisal, technical supervision during testing, manufacture, in service and confirmation of compliance of tare, package, intermediate bulk containers intended for transportation of dangerous goods with the national and international requirements;

.6 upon requests of interested parties, preparation of documents for multimodal transportation of dangerous goods and certification of bulk cargoes according to the international agreements (conventions) and the cargo transportation rules;

.7 issuance of appropriate documents following the results of activities stated above;

.8 registry of tank containers and keeping records thereof;

.9 development and publication of the rules for containers manufacture and the rules for containers approval for transportation;

.10 upon requests of interested parties, certification, assessment and confirmation of compliance of safety management systems; ship security certification; review of ship security plans; ship inspections for compliance with the requirements of the International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions; certification of companies for recruitment and placement of seafarers (crewing companies);

.11 review and approval (agreement) of draft standards and other normative documents related to the RS activity;

.12 may initiate examinations of technical issues within the RS terms of reference and participate therein;

.13 upon requests of interested parties, review of the shipbuilding and ship repair yards facilities in the course of placing orders within them for construction and repair of ships;

.14 upon requests of interested parties, provision of surveyor services and rendering services as third independent party for industrial objects and offshore installations in the field not related to classification activities;

.15 review and approval of computer software used for design purposes in shipbuilding and for ships and offshore installations in service;

.16 assessment activities in respect of ships and offshore installations by requests of shipowners, charterers, insurers and other interested parties;

.17 organization of scientific and research activities to improve the RS rules and other RS normative documents;

.18 rendering consulting and information services relating to the types of activities specified herein.

1.2.17 The technological and special arrangements of fishing vessels, cable layers, vessels of dredging fleet and special purpose ships are not subject to the Register survey except the equipment specified in the relevant parts of the RS rules.

1.2.18 The Register of Ships is published by the Register, containing the particulars of self-propelled sea-going ships of 100 gross tonnage and upwards classed with the Register.

1.2.19 For works performed (services rendered) by the Register fees are charged according to the RS pricing system.

1.2.20 If the commitments to the Register including those on payment for its services fail to be performed or are improperly performed, the Register is entitled not to assign a class or, where a class has already been assigned, to suspend or withdraw it from the ship or offshore installation in connection with which the commitments to the Register, including those on payment for its services failed to be performed or were improperly performed, and to withdraw (make an entry indicating cessation of validity) the certificates issued by the Register.

1.3 RULES

1.3.1 Rules to be applied.

1.3.1.1 The following rules are developed, published and used by the Register:

- .1** Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-Going Ships;
- .2** Rules for the Equipment of Sea-Going Ships;
- .3** Load Line Rules for Sea-Going Ships;
- .4** Rules for the Cargo-Handling Gear of Sea-Going Ships;
- .5** Rules for the Classification Surveys of Ships in Service;
- .6** Rules for the Classification and Construction of Inland Navigation Ships (for European Inland Waterways);
- .7** Rules for the Surveys of Inland Navigation Ships in Service (for European Inland Waterways);
- .8** Rules for the Classification, Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units and Fixed Offshore Platforms;
- .9** Rules for the Classification and Construction of Chemical Tankers;
- .10** Rules for the Classification and Construction of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk;
- .11** Rules for the Classification and Construction of Ships Carrying Compressed Natural Gas;
- .12** Rules for the Classification and Construction of Nuclear Ships and Floating Facilities;
- .13** Rules for the Classification and Construction of Nuclear Support Vessels;
- .14** Rules for the Classification and Construction of High-Speed Craft;
- .15** Rules for the Classification and Construction of Manned Submersibles and Ship's Diving Systems;
- .16** Rules for the Classification and Construction of Type A WIG Craft;
- .17** Rules for the Carriage of Grain;
- .18** Rules for the Construction of Hulls of Sea-Going Ships and Floating Facilities Using Reinforced Concrete;
- .19** Rules for the Classification and Construction of Small Sea Fishing Vessels;
- .20** Rules for the Classification and Construction of Pleasure Craft;
- .21** Rules for the Classification, Construction and Equipment of Floating Offshore Oil-and-Gas Production Units;
- .22** Rules for the Tonnage Measurement of Sea-Going Ships;
- .23** Rules for the Tonnage Measurement of Inland Navigation Ships;
- .24** Rules for Technical Supervision during Construction of Ships and Manufacture of Materials and Products for Ships;
- .25** Rules for the Survey of Ship Propulsion Plants for Compliance with Technical Standards of Noxious Substance Emission into the Air;
- .26** Rules for the Oil-and-Gas Equipment of Floating Offshore Oil-and-Gas Production Units, Mobile Offshore Drilling Units and Fixed Offshore Platforms;
- .27** Rules for the Classification and Construction of Subsea Pipelines;
- .28** Rules for Planning and Execution of Marine Operations;
- .29** Rules for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships Intended for Operation in Sea Areas and Inland Waterways of the Russian Federation;
- .30** Rules for the Classification and Survey of Sailing Racing Yachts;
- .31** Rules for the Design, Construction, Repair and Operation of Sailing Racing Yachts, Manufacture of Materials and Products for Installation on Board Sailing Racing Yachts;
- .32** General Regulations for the Technical Supervision of Containers;
- .33** Rules for the Manufacture of Containers;
- .34** Rules for the Approval of Containers for the Transport of Goods Under Customs Seal;
- .35** Rules for Technical Supervision of Containers in Service;
- .36** Rules for Voluntary Certification of Services on Maintenance of Ships;
- .37** Rules for Voluntary Certification of Products and General-Purpose Industrial Enterprises;
- .38** Rules for the Classification and Construction of Subsea Production Systems.

1.3.1.2 Besides the rules mentioned under 1.3.1.1, the following rules are applied to the Register activity:

- .1 Rules for Measurement of Vessels for the Panama Canal;
- .2 Regulations for the Measurement of Tonnage for the Suez Canal;
- .3 Rules of the RF River Register;
- .4 other external normative documents approved by the Register.

1.3.1.3 The Register also develops, publishes and uses guidelines on survey of ships and offshore installations in service, on technical supervision during construction thereof, at manufacture of materials and products for shipbuilding as well as other guidelines and technical requirements regulating the Register activity in other spheres.

1.3.2 Application of the rules to ships and offshore installations under construction, materials and products.

1.3.2.1 Newly published rules and amendments thereto come into force on the date stated in the annotation on the back of the title page. Before that date they shall be considered a recommendation.

1.3.2.2 For newly built ships and offshore installations (hereinafter referred to as "the ships"), the rules and amendments thereto in effect on the date of signing the contract for construction of a ship (a series of ships) are generally applied.

If the ship design is submitted to the Register for approval before the date of signing the contract for construction, the rules and amendments thereto in effect on the date of the customer's request for the design review are applied. In this case, if the new rules or amendments to the rules according to which the ship design was approved, have become effective on the date of signing the contract for construction of the ship, its design shall be updated to comply with the above rules or amendments.

1.3.2.3 New or modified RS rules' requirements coming into force subsequent to the date of contract for construction of a ship (series of ships) may apply in the following cases:

- .1 when a justified written request is received from the party applying for classification;
- .2 when the keel has not been laid yet but more than one year has passed from the date of signing the contract for construction;
- .3 where previously approved plans are intended to use for a new contract for construction.

1.3.2.4 Application of the rules and amendments to the rules for auxiliary and other ships of war, as well as other State-owned ships or government ships operated and used for non-commercial purposes is subject to special consideration by the Register in each case.

1.3.2.5 Materials and products, technical documentation on which is submitted to the Register for approval after coming into force of the rules or amendments thereto, shall comply with the requirements of the above rules and amendments.

1.3.3 Application of rules to ships in service (except for the Rules for the Classification Surveys of Ships in Service).

1.3.3.1 To ships in service classed by the Register for the first time, unless expressly provided otherwise, the requirements of the RS rules effective from the date of build of the ship, shall apply.

1.3.3.2 For ships in service classed by the Register for the first time:

.1 in accordance with IACS procedural requirement (PR) 1A, the requirements of the ACS — IACS member rules for compliance with which the ship was constructed shall apply. Compliance with the requirements of these rules shall be confirmed by the Classification Certificate issued by ACS — IACS member and being valid when the ship is classed with the Register. Application of the RS rules and assignment of the RS class to the ship shall be carried out in accordance with 2.2.2.2 of Part I "Classification" of the Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-Going Ships;

.2 in accordance with IACS PR1D, the requirements of the RS rules effective during construction of a given ship shall apply, as far as practicable, taking into account the requirements of subsequent editions of the RS rules applicable to ships in service. Deviations from the RS rules are allowed taking into account 1.3.4.

1.3.3.3 All RS-classed ships, which have undergone repairs, conversions, modernizations and outfitting related thereto, unless expressly provided otherwise, shall continue to comply with at least the requirements previously applicable to these ships.

1.3.3.4 For the purpose of this para the term "unless expressly provided otherwise" means the RS requirements applicable to a particular ship and/or additional requirements specifying to what ships in service, to what extent and from which date or moment they were made mandatory.

1.3.4 Deviations from the RS rules.

1.3.4.1 The Register may allow using materials and products, ship structures and their separate arrangements other than those required by the RS rules, provided an equivalent level of safety to the established RS classification requirements is ensured.

In such case, data shall be submitted to the Register enabling to ascertain the materials, structures and products in question meet the requirements ensuring the ship safety, safety of life at sea, safe carriage of goods by sea and by inland waterways as well as ecological safety of the environment.

1.3.4.2 Where the structure of a ship, separate machinery, arrangements, equipment and outfit or the materials used cannot be recognized as being adequately verified in service, the Register may require special tests to be held during construction and, in case of a ship in service, may reduce intervals between periodical surveys or extend the scope of these surveys.

When deemed necessary by the Register, appropriate restrictive entries may be made in the classification or other documents issued by the Register and in the Register of Ships. The restrictions are withdrawn subsequent to satisfactory results obtained in service.

1.4 DOCUMENTS

1.4.1 As a result of its activity, the Register issues relevant certificates:

- .1** certificates confirming compliance with the requirements of Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-Going Ships and rules for the classification and construction of particular types of ships;
- .2** certificates stipulated by international conventions and codes;
- .3** survey reports serving as the basis for issuing relevant certificates;
- .4** certificates for products, materials, works, services and processes confirming their compliance with the requirements of the RS rules.

1.5 THE REGISTER RESPONSIBILITIES

1.5.1 The Register entrusts carrying out inspections to experts adequately skilled and performing their duties with proper diligence.

The Register is responsible for failure to perform or for improper performance of its commitments only when found guilty (by intent or carelessness).

The Register covers the losses to persons entering with it into contractual relations, as stipulated by the RS rules, and whose losses result from its failure to perform or improper performance of its contractual commitments due to carelessness, to the amount not exceeding the contract fees determined on the basis of the Register scales of fees and provided solely the causal relationship has been proved between such failure to perform or improper performance of contractual commitments by the Register and the suffered losses.

1.6 CONFIDENTIALITY

1.6.1 The Register considers as confidential any information obtained in the course of rendering services and does not provide its contents or copies without prior agreement with the customer to external organizations, except when the Register is obliged to supply the information related to the details of proceedings reasonably requested by court and law-enforcement authorities, and the information inquired by Flag State and Port State, as well as in other cases prescribed by the current legislation and the RS rules.

1.6.2 Notwithstanding the general duty of confidentiality owed by the Register to its customer in accordance with the RS rules, the Register participation in IACS Early Warning System requires each IACS member to provide its fellow IACS members with relevant technical information on serious hull structural and engineering systems failures to facilitate the proper working of IACS Early Warning System.

The Register will provide its customer with details of such information upon sending the same to IACS members.

2 SURVEYS

2.1 GENERAL

2.1.1 For the surveys to be carried out, the shipowners, administrations of shipyards, firms (manufacturers) and other organizations (firms) shall ensure that the Register representatives have the opportunity to carry out ship surveys, as well as free access to all places where materials and products are manufactured and tested, and shall provide all conditions for the surveys to be carried out.

Where necessary, the Register may require to provide the access to surveyed items as well as the conditions for performing the work by RS surveyors together with external auditors when the latter carry out audits of the Register quality management system.

2.1.2 Shipowners, shipyards, design bureaus and firms (manufacturers) shall fulfil the requirements of the Register or RS surveyors when they are in the course of their duty.

2.1.3 Any alterations on the part of shipowners, shipyards, design bureaus and firms (manufacturers) in respect of ship structure, materials and products to which the requirements of the rules apply shall be approved by the Register before they are put into service.

2.1.4 Controversial issues arising in connection with the Register activity may be transferred by shipowners, shipyards, firms (manufacturers) and other organizations (firms) to the higher RS Branch Office. The judgement of the Register Head Office (RHO) is final.

2.1.5 The Register may refuse from survey in case the shipyard or firm (manufacturer) systematically violates the Rules or if the other Party to a contract violates it.

2.1.6 When a material or product proves defective under a valid certificate, the Register may require additional tests or relevant repair to be carried out, and where the defects cannot be repaired, may cancel the certificate.

2.2 SURVEYS DURING THE MANUFACTURE OF MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS

2.2.1 The relevant parts of the Rules contain lists of materials and products the manufacture of which shall be surveyed by the Register, as well as technological processes specified by the Register.

By special agreement, the Register may carry out the surveys of materials and products not mentioned in the above lists.

2.2.2 Materials and products within the Register terms of reference shall be manufactured in accordance with technical documentation approved by the Register.

2.2.3 During surveys, the Register may check compliance with structural, technological and production standards and processes which are not regulated by the rules, but which may influence the fulfillment of the rules requirements.

2.2.4 During ship construction or repair, manufacture of materials and products, the Register shall approve the application of new materials, products and processes, or those submitted to it for the first time, that are referred to the RS Nomenclature. For this purpose, specimens of the material, product or the new process shall be tested in the scope agreed with the Register subsequent to their technical documentation being approved by the Register.

2.2.5 The RS surveys during the manufacture of materials and products are carried out by RS surveyors, or may be entrusted by the Register to another classification society in accordance with an agreement on mutual substitution.

2.2.6 In cases specified by the Register, the manufacturing works will be surveyed by the Register to inspect the facilities for manufacturing materials and products complying with the RS requirements.

2.2.7 In the process of surveys during manufacture materials and products shall undergo the surveys and tests according to the procedures and within the scope prescribed by the Register.

2.2.8 Materials and products manufactured in accordance with the RS requirements shall be provided with the documents specified by the Register and, where necessary, the brands and marking enabling to determine their compliance with the above documents.

2.2.9 In sound cases, the Register may establish special conditions for the application of particular products.

2.3 SURVEYS OF SHIPS UNDER CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION AND CONVERSION

2.3.1 Surveys of ships under construction, reconstruction and conversion are carried out by RS surveyors on the basis of technical documentation approved by the Register. The scope of examinations, measurements and tests during surveys is determined by the Register on the basis of current instructions and proceeding from the situation.

2.4 SURVEYS OF SHIPS IN SERVICE

2.4.1 Surveys of ships in service are carried out according to the Rules for the Classification Surveys of Ships in Service and other RS normative documents.

2.5 SURVEYS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

2.5.1 The requirements of the following international documents, as well as amendments thereto, are taken into account in the relevant RS rules and normative documents:

International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (SOLAS 74), as amended by the Protocols of 1978, 1988 relating thereto;

International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78);

International Convention on Load Lines, 1966 (LL-66), as modified by the Protocol of 1988 relating thereto (revised in 2003);

International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships (TONNAGE), 1969;

Convention on the Measurement of Inland Navigation Vessels, 1966;

International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships (AFS Convention), 2001;

International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention), 2004;

International Convention for Safe Containers (CSC), 1972;

Occupational Safety and Health (Dock Work) Convention, 1979 (No. 152) and ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Ports, 2005;

Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (COLREGs);

Radio Regulations, 2012;

International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (IBC Code);

International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk (IGC Code);

International Code of Safety for High-Speed Craft (HSC Code);

Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units (MODU Code);

Code of Safety for Special Purpose Ships (SPS Code);

Code of Safety for Diving Systems;

Code on Alerts and Indicators;

International Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and for Pollution Prevention (International Safety Management Code (ISM Code));

International Life-Saving Appliance Code (LSA Code);

International Code for Fire Safety Systems (FSS Code);

International Code for Application of Fire Test Procedures (FTP Code);

International Code for the Safe Carriage of Packaged Irradiated Nuclear Fuel, Plutonium and High-level Radioactive Wastes on Board Ships (INF Code);

International Code for the Safe Carriage of Grain in Bulk (International Grain Code);

International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes Code (IMSBC Code);

International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code);

inter-governmental agreements on load lines in force;

other normative documents used in international sea-going practice.

The provisions of the above conventions and agreements apply to ships engaged on international voyages.

2.5.2 Surveys of items falling under the requirements of international conventions and agreements are carried out in conformity with approved technical documentation and RS normative documents considering the requirements of the above conventions and agreements.

Российский морской регистр судоходства

Общие положения о классификационной и иной деятельности

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