



Merchant Marine **Notice**

Panama Maritime Authority
General Directorate of Merchant Marine
Control and Compliance Department

F-34
(DCCM)
V.04

CORONAVIRUS AND SEAFARERS EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT AND CERTIFICATES

No.: **MMN-03/2020**

1. The purpose of this Merchant Marine Notice is to inform that with the outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the World Health Organization (WHO) declared a state of global health emergency, causing massive uncertainty across the global trade, resulting in additional implication for the regular shipping operations. The coronavirus outbreak has spread rapidly extended further to several countries.
2. The effects of this outbreak are having a repercussion with the seafarers whose Certificate/s have expired or will expire soon, where the companies are facing problems because their planned disembarkation cannot be safely completed in ports affected by the outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus.
3. As it has been determined with extensive travel restrictions to and within infected and non-infected countries, moving personnel has become more difficult, resulting in harsh scrutinizing seafarers who have recently visited affected areas.
4. Regarding of the seafarers employment agreements and transitory measure carried out due to the Corona Virus outbreak, this Administration determined that they were applied until September 14, 2020. After this date, this Administration returned to compliance with the provisions of Executive Decree No. 86 of February 22, 2013, Merchant Marine Circular MMC-262 and Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended.
5. **Extension of Seafarers Certificates of Endorsement**
 - 5.1. This letter shall be issued for the certificates issued by the Panama Maritime Authority under the Regulation I/10 of the STCW'78 Convention, as amended. These letters shall be issued by the Regional Documentation Offices of the General Directorate of Seafarers, after receiving the following requirements:



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- a) Email requesting the extension of the Certificate, including the particulars of the vessel, crew name and position on board.
- b) For the Extension of Certificates issued under regulation I/10, shall submit the Authorization letter of extension of the issuance Country and copy of the Home Country License. The extension shall be given according the letter of authorization of the Issuance's Country CoC's or CoP's.
- c) Crew List.
- d) Copy of the Registry certificate.

5.2. Dispensation Letter

5.2.1 If any Third Party member of the STCW'78 Convention, who issued the Seafarers Certificate, has not extended it due to Corona Virus outbreak, this Administration shall grant a Dispensation Letter to the capacity under the requirements established in the Merchant Marine Circular No. 175 and shall complete the requested form available in the following link: http://201.225.255.174/download/index.php?dir=DISPENSAS_AUTORIZACION%2E which shall be submitted to the HEAD OFFICE or REGIONAL DOCUMENTATION OFFICES along with the following documents:

- a) Copy of the Certificate/s.
- b) Crew List.
- c) Copy of the Registry Certificate.

6. Please contact the Regional Documentation Offices of your convenience to the following e-mail addresses:

AMERICA	
CERTIFICATION Dept. Panama LABOUR Dept. Panama	certification@amp.gob.pa seaextension@amp.gob.pa
RDO Miami	regionalmiami@amp.gob.pa
RDO Houston	offshore@segumar.com

ASIA	
RDO Dubai	segumar.dubai@segumar.gob.pa
RDO Shanghai	info.pmshanghai@amp.gob.pa
RDO Seoul	regionalofficeseoul@amp.gob.pa
RDO Manila	infoampmanila@amp.gob.pa
RDO Mumbai	ord.mumbai@amp.gob.pa
RDO Tokyo	crew-license@panaconsul-tokyo.com
RDO Imabari	segumar@segumarimabari.jp
RDO Singapore	segumar.sg@segumar.com
EUROPE	
RDO Pireus	ampgreece@amp.gob.pa
RDO London	amplondon@amp.gob.pa

7. Extension of the Validity of Color Copy of Full terms of Technical Documents onboard.

7.1. In addition to the measures taken in the MMC-313 updated to 01st April 2020, the Panama Maritime Authority will grant an extension of the color copy of the full terms of Technical Documentation (Seaman's book, Course endorsement, Certificate of Competence, Certificate of Proficiency, Endorsement of Certificate of Competence and Endorsement of Certificate of Proficiency) for the period of ninety (90) calendar days, counting from the issuing date of the technical documentation. This document is verifiable using the QR code in the document or asking for confirmation via email to the e-mail address certification@amp.gob.pa.

7.2. These extensions allowed will be reviewed considering the condition of the COVID-19.

8. Certificates of proficiency issued by an authorized Maritime Training Center of Panama in accordance with the regulation V and VI of the STCW amended (except those issued under regulation I/2) will be considered valid for a period of three (3) months from its expiry date.



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9. Finally, these measures established would be revised accordingly to the condition of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) across the global trade in the maritime sector.

March, 2022 – Paragraph 9 has been deleted and follow the numerical sequence.

October, 2021 – Modification/update through the entire MMN text.

January, 2021 – Paragraph 6.2, 7, 11.1 and 11.3 number 5, has been modified.

October, 2020 – Paragraph 6.2 has been modified.

August, 2020 – New paragraph 4.3, and paragraphs 5, 6.1, 6.4 and 9.1 has been modified.

June, 2020 – Paragraph 6.1, 6.2

June, 2020 – Paragraph 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7, 9.1, 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.4, 11.5, and 11.6 has been modified.

May, 2020 – Paragraph 6.1 has been modified.

April, 2020 - New paragraph 11.

April, 2020 - New paragraphs 6.2, 8 and 9, the numbers of the paragraphs are also ordered.

March 25, 2020 - Coronavirus Prevention Measures.

March, 2020 - Coronavirus Prevention Measures.

February, 2020 - Coronavirus Prevention Measure.

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Merchant Marine Notice or any other request should be forward to:

Maritime Labour Affairs Department / Certification Department / Training Department /
SEGUMAR

General Directorate of Seafarers
Directorate General of Merchant Marine
Panama Maritime Authority

Phone: (507) 501-5062 / 5010

E-mail: labormar@amp.gob.pa / verification@amp.gob.pa /
training.department@amp.gob.pa / msm@segumar.com

Website: <https://panamashipregistry.com/marine-category/marine-notices/>