Destinataires : Tous les Membres de l'OMI
Organisations intergouvernementales
Organisations non gouvernementales bénéficiant du statut consultatif

Objet : Communication du Gouvernement de la République du Panama


***

* En anglais seulement.
PANAMA SAFEGUARDS SEAFARERS’ RIGHTS DURING THIS WORLD HEALTH CRISIS

The Panama Maritime Authority (AMP) wants to emphasize that the measures adopted through MMN-003-2020 Coronavirus and Seafarers Employment Agreement and Certificates, on the extension of employment agreements for seafarers were implemented to safeguard their rights and working conditions during this health crisis (COVID-19).

Panama has, responsibly, taken various actions with the purpose of establishing mechanisms, procedures, instructions, administrative measures and communications, which serve as a basis to minimize the risks and impact of the health crisis on seafarers, particularly with regards to the impossibility of replacing crews onboard ships, as well as in the maritime industry, within the protocols established by international organizations, including the declarations and guidelines issued by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) regarding the worldwide health emergency created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The seafarers’ welfare is and will continue to be a priority for the Panama Maritime Authority. The AMP has widely demonstrated its compliance with the modalities for repatriation, disembarkation and embarkation of crew members, which includes seven (7) different modalities through which, since the end of March 2020 to date, it has been possible for approximately 4,341 people (between passengers and crews) of various nationalities, including Panamanians onboard passenger, cargo, fishing and yacht ships, to return to their homes safely. In addition, some 20 humanitarian flights have been coordinated with other Government institutions (more details see note at the end of the press release).

The Panama Maritime Administration, like most ship registries worldwide, has expressed its concerns related to the special cases where crew members may have to continue their service more than 12 months due to international traveling restrictions imposed by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Panama Maritime Authority may grant extensions of the SEA under exceptional circumstances (force majeure) and under revision on a case by case basis.

It is important to underline that the work carried out by the Panama Maritime Authority (AMP) has been recognized and praised by international organizations such as the IMO and various diplomatic missions established in Panama who have publicly praised Panama’s efforts to facilitate crew changes while urging all countries to fully comply with their obligations regarding crew changes, repatriation and access to medical care, encouraging the Republic of Panama to share its best practices with other nations since Panama was one of the first countries to provide humanitarian aid in March 2020 in its territory since each State is sovereign in its decision-making with regards to the sanitary measures adopted during this crisis caused by COVID-19.

Given the above and with the intention of the measures established in MMN-003-2020 to prevail, the Panama Maritime Authority’s Administration has proceeded to modify the Marine Merchant Notice to strengthen and reinforce its initial purpose, which has always been and will continue to be the protection of seafarers, through the formal extension of employment agreements for seafarers, complying with the requirements established by the Panama Administration, such as the express consent of both parties (seafarers and ship owners) and with the purpose to ensure that the crew is protected under a legal figure in which the conditions of employment are maintained and the labor benefits of seafarers are guaranteed, like payment of their wages, annual paid vacations, overtime pay, medical attention on board and on land, their repatriation, among others, as established by the MLC 2006, which are the vital elements at the moment.
Panama works hard and tirelessly for its 318,000 seafarers onboard more than 8,000 ships that are registered under Panama’s Flag, through the execution of actions that have been fully verified nationally and internationally, and which have also been reinforced during this time of crisis as the Declaration of the Republic of Panama in support of the Recommended Framework of Protocols issued by the IMO on safe crew changes due to COVID-19 through Circular No. 4204 / add14 (May 7, 2020), the Declaration in support of the decision of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to designate seafarers as “Key Workers” (May 17, 2020) and the adoption of Merchant Marine Notice No. 003-2020, through which seafarers’ measures are adopted to be applied during the COVID-19 pandemic.

It should be noted that Panama shares the same adversities than other Ship Registries face, such as worldwide airport restrictions and sanitary fences that hinder crew changes.

Likewise, the Panama Maritime Administration invites all companies including those not having vessels in its fleet to consider Panama as a crew change hub. Panama has all the protocols in place providing helps to the seafarers need.

For more details please see [https://amp.gob.pa/crew-change-during-covid-19/](https://amp.gob.pa/crew-change-during-covid-19/)

Finally, Panama invites other countries to consider the actions implemented and join efforts for the benefit of all seafarers.

The Panamanian Maritime Administration will remain vigilant that the seafarers’ rights are fulfilled.

Final Note: Our Administration has accomplished,

- Crew Exchange in passenger, cargo, fishing vessels, and yacht, following all protocols on each the cases,
- Seven (7) modalities established for crew exchanged,
- 4,341 crew members & passengers, disembarked,
- 271 embarked crew members from more than 50 nationalities successfully repatriated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vessel</th>
<th>Amount of Crew Members / Passenger Disembarkation</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Disembarkations’ Nationalities</th>
<th>Embarkation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONARCH</td>
<td>88 Crew Members</td>
<td>10/05/2020</td>
<td>Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>51 Crew Members</td>
<td>19/03/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONARCH</td>
<td>2600 Passengers</td>
<td>19/03/2020</td>
<td>Panama, Colombia, Venezuela</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOLOMON SAPPHIRE</td>
<td>10 Crew Members</td>
<td>12/05/2020</td>
<td>Solomon Islands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOLOMON TOPAZ</td>
<td>11 Crew Members</td>
<td>12/05/2020</td>
<td>Solomon Islands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARCO POLO</td>
<td>1 Crew Members</td>
<td>12/05/2020</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SILVER EXPLORER</td>
<td>4 Crew Members</td>
<td>20/05/2020</td>
<td>Mexico, UK, United States, Argentina, Germany, Ukraine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Crew Members</td>
<td>19/05/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 Crew Members</td>
<td>26/05/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Crew Members</td>
<td>28/05/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARNIVAL MIRACLE</td>
<td>1 Crew Members</td>
<td>20/05/2020</td>
<td>United States, Albania, Macedonia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Chile,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 Crew Members</td>
<td>25/05/2020</td>
<td>Estonia, Mexico, Italy, Romania, Ukraine, Croatia, Bosnia.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 Crew Members</td>
<td>27/05/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 Crew Members</td>
<td>30/05/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Crew Members</td>
<td>31/05/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YATCH AVE MARIA</td>
<td>11 Passengers</td>
<td>19/03/2020</td>
<td>Australia, Ireland, Germany</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YATCH MARIGOT-OHANA</td>
<td>4 Passengers</td>
<td>01/04/2020</td>
<td>New Zealand, UK, Germany</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(New Zealand)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YATE PATEA</td>
<td>3 Passengers</td>
<td>01/04/2020</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request for Various Yachts (Embassy of Canada)</td>
<td>5 Passengers</td>
<td>24/03/2020</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request for Various Yachts (Embassy of Germany)</td>
<td>4 Passengers</td>
<td>23/03/2020</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnival Imagination to Carnival Miracle</td>
<td>31 Crew Members</td>
<td>18/05/2020</td>
<td>India, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, Portugal, Italy, the Philippines, Romania, Peru, Ukraine, Indonesia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnival Inspiration to Carnival Miracle</td>
<td>36 Crew Members</td>
<td>18/05/2020</td>
<td>Croatia, Bosnia, India, UK, Mexico, Philippines, Italy, Estonia, Myanmar, Peru, Thailand, Indonesia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver Muse to Silver Explorer</td>
<td>16 Crew Members</td>
<td>19/05/2020</td>
<td>Serbia, Italy, Egypt, Argentina, Macedonia, Poland, Tunisia, Morocco, Ukraine, Brazil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zaandam to Rotterdam</td>
<td>798 Passengers</td>
<td>27/03/2020</td>
<td>Argentina, Austria, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Holland, New Zealand, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, United States</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS MARINA</td>
<td>2 Passengers</td>
<td>18/03/2020</td>
<td>Panama</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N DISCOVERY</td>
<td>1 Crew Members</td>
<td>11/04/2020</td>
<td>Panama</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhapsody of the Seas</td>
<td>36 Crew Members</td>
<td>26/05/2020</td>
<td>Panama</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caribbean Princess</td>
<td>25 Crew Members</td>
<td>28/05/2020</td>
<td>Panama</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transshipment Carnival Miracle y Carnival Glory</td>
<td>91 Crew Members</td>
<td>11/06/2020</td>
<td>Philippines, India, Indonesia, Myanmar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USS Laramie</td>
<td>19 Crew Members</td>
<td>10/06/2020</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windsurf y Windstar</td>
<td>36 Crew Members</td>
<td>21/06/2020</td>
<td>20 CM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTI Sextans</td>
<td>10 Crew Members</td>
<td>22/06/2020</td>
<td>Philippines, Croatia Bulgaria</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Princess</td>
<td>3 Crew Members</td>
<td>23/06/2020</td>
<td>European Union</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seaborn Sojourn</td>
<td>5 Crew Members</td>
<td>23/06/2020</td>
<td>European Union</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oosterdam</td>
<td>12 Crew Members</td>
<td>23/06/2020</td>
<td>European Union</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnival Corporation PLC (Charter Flight)</td>
<td>296 Crew Members</td>
<td>24/06/2020</td>
<td>238 CM (25/06/2020)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koningsdam</td>
<td>21 Crew Members</td>
<td>25/06/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star Princess</td>
<td>22 Crew Members</td>
<td>25/06/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,341</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>271</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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. This Administration considers appropriate to inform how to proceed in the following scenarios of crew change:

   4.1. If the seafarers’ employment agreement expires or will expire soon, an exception to Standard A2.4.3 “Entitlement to leave”, and Standard A2.5.1.2(b) “Repatriation” of the Maritime Labour Convention2006, will be granted in order to extend it.

   4.2. In those cases, where the change of crew, due to expiration of the Certificate/s, cannot be carried out due to the Corona Virus outbreak, this Administration shall consider appropriate the issuance of an Extension or Dispensation Letter evaluating the nature of the case.

5. This pandemic condition is causing inevitable delays on the renewal of the Certificate of Inspection of Crew Accommodation (CICA) expiring in March, April, May and June 2020, due to the travelling restrictions worldwide.
6. In this sense, this Administration has determined the following instructions for the issuance of the correspondent letter:

6.1. Extension of Seafarers Employment Agreement

These letters to extend the Seafarers Employment Agreement shall be issued by the Regional Documentation Offices and Maritime Labour Affairs Department of the General Directorate of Seafarers, and the interested party shall submit the following requirements:

a) Email requesting the extension of the Certificate, including the particulars of the vessel, crew name and position on board.

b) Objective evidence that the seafarer cannot be repatriated when his employment agreement expires.

c) Letter signed by the seafarer agreeing to the extension of the Seafarer Employment Agreement (SEA).

d) Copy of the Seafarer Employment Agreement (SEA) of each seafarer and the SEA extension signed by both parties (Seafarer and Ship-owner).

e) Crew List,

f) Copy of the Registry certificate

Be informed that the given exception letter according to this Marine Notice will be for a period of three (3) months to continue being engaged under their seafarers’ employment agreements beyond a period of 11 months taking into account arrangements made by the ship-owner to repatriate seafarers as soon as possible at the next available port.

If the situation of the pandemic remains the same, this period may be extended on a case-by-case basis, upon application, as long as it is agreed by both parties and the above mentioned requirements are in compliance.

This Maritime Administration reiterates that any extension granted would require an addendum to the Seafarer Employment Agreement under the same terms and conditions as the underlying agreement and it must be agreed by both parties.

If the seafarer does not agree with the extension of the SEA, please contact us to the following e-mail address: labormar@amp.gob.pa.
At the end of the extension provided by this Administration, all seafarers must have the right for their paid leave, taking into account the whole period worked on board, as an exceptional circumstance to the Standard A2.4.3.

The seafarers subject to these extensions shall be repatriated as a prescribed Standard A2.5.1.2(b) of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended.

We strongly encourage all Authorities to allow the crew changes at the earliest opportunity so as seafarers repatriation to their homes could be achieved.

6.2. Extension of Seafarers Certificates including Certificates of Endorsement

This letter shall be issued for the certificates issued by the Panama Maritime Authority under the Regulation I/2, Seaman’s book (for ratings) and 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:

a) Email requesting the extension of the Certificate, including the particulars of the vessel, crew name and position on board,

b) For extension of certificate under Regulation I/2 and Seaman’s book (for ratings), Copy of the Certificate/s or Seaman’s book issued by the Panama Maritime Authority. Be informed that the given extension according to this Marine Notice will be for a period of three (3) months from the date of expiration of the certificate/s, and reviewed whether the granted extension shall require additional period considering the condition of the (COVID-19).

c) For the Extension of Certificates issued under regulation I/10, shall submitted the Authorization letter of extension of the issuance Country and copy of the Home Country License. The extension would be given according to the letter of authorization of the Issuance´s Country CoC´s or CoP´s.

d) Crew List,

e) Copy of the Registry Certificate
6.3. Dispensation Letter

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 (rank) under the requirements stated in the Merchant Marine Circular No. 175 and the form established by the circular MMC-191 “SEG-01-15-01 Application for Crew Dispensation Letters” shall be submitted to the SEGUMAR OFFICES along with the following documents:

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


This Dispensation Letter to extend the Certificate of Inspection of Crew Accommodation (CICA) issued by the Maritime Labour Affairs Department of the General Directorate of Seafarers shall continue to be issued, please submit the following requirements to the e-mail address labormar@amp.gob.pa:

   a)  Request Certificate of Inspection of Crew Accommodation (CICA) extension, including the particular of the vessel and reasons of the request.
   b)  Copy of Full-Term Certificate of Inspection of Crew Accommodation (CICA) expired or about to expire.
   c)  Registry Certificate.
   d)  Annual Taxes Receipt.

The Dispensation Letters issued as product of the COVID-19 condition in this Marine Notice will be valid for a period of three (3) months, and at no cost, solely under this exceptional circumstances.
A copy of the Dispensation Letter issued by the Directorate General of Seafarers shall be attached to the Certificate of Inspection of Crew Accommodation (CICA).

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>America</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CERTIFICATION Dept. Panama</td>
<td><a href="mailto:certification@amp.gob.pa">certification@amp.gob.pa</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LABOUR Dept. Panama</td>
<td><a href="mailto:seaextension@amp.gob.pa">seaextension@amp.gob.pa</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RDO Miami</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vrodriguez@amp.gob.pa">vrodriguez@amp.gob.pa</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asia</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RDO Shanghai</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info.shanghai@amp.gob.pa">info.shanghai@amp.gob.pa</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RDO Seoul</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jgoodridge@amp.gob.pa">jgoodridge@amp.gob.pa</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>RDO Manila</td>
<td><a href="mailto:infoampmanila@amp.gob.pa">infoampmanila@amp.gob.pa</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RDO Mumbai</td>
<td><a href="mailto:japosam@amp.gob.pa">japosam@amp.gob.pa</a></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Europe</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RDO Pireus</td>
<td><a href="mailto:majaen@amp.gob.pa">majaen@amp.gob.pa</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RDO Dubai</td>
<td><a href="mailto:orangel@amp.gob.pa">orangel@amp.gob.pa</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RDO London</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amplondon@amp.gob.pa">amplondon@amp.gob.pa</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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 verification@amp.gob.pa.

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

9. **Extension of the Validity of the Medical Certificates**

9.1. For medical certificates issued by medical practitioner recognized by the Panama Maritime Authority, this Administration will grant an Authorization to the seafarer who’s medical certificate has expired within January and September 2020. This Authorization Letter will be issued by the Maritime Labor Affairs Department of the General Directorate of Seafarers, please submit your request along with the following requirements to the e-mail address labormar@amp.gob.pa:

   a) Copy of the medical certificate expired within January and June 2020 issued by a medical practitioner recognized by the Panama Maritime Authority,

   b) Passport copy.

Authorization Letters issued as consequence of the COVID-19 condition according to this Marine Notice will be valid for a period of six (6) months, and it will be issued at no cost.

This Authorization does not exempt from the compliance with the requirements established by the General Directorate of the Seafarers in terms of issuance of the Full Terms License.

9.2. In urgent cases, the Panama Maritime Authority may permit a seafarer to work without a valid medical certificate until the next port of call where a medical practitioner recognized by a State Party of the STCW’78 as amended is available. This Authorization Letter will be issued by the Maritime Labor Affairs Department of the General Directorate of Seafarers, please submit your request along with the following requirements to the e-mail address labormar@amp.gob.pa:

   a) Email request shall include the ship’s particulars, crew name and position on board,

   b) Copy of the medical certificate expired issued by a medical practitioner recognized by a State Party of the STCW’78 as amended and/or MLC, 2006 as amended,

   c) Panama License (Certificate of Competence, Endorsement of Certificate of Competence, Seaman`s Book)
The period of such authorization letter will not exceed three (3) months, and it will be issued at no cost.

9.3. If the Medical Certificate expires in the course of a voyage, it shall continue in force for a period of three (3) months from its expiry date (MLC, 2006 Standard A1.2.9).

10. 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.

11. Measures for Maritime Training Centers:

11.1. Resolution ADM-074-2020 of May 19, 2020, which subrogates Resolution ADM-056-2020, authorizes the PMA-authorized Maritime Training Centers until December 31, 2020, to renew Maritime training course certificates, to teach completely theoretical courses for the first time through the remote education modality, to teach courses (theoretical / practical), only the theoretical part for the first time through remote education and to carry out the process of Prior Documentary Evaluation through electronic media, all this as a contingency measure against the COVID-19 condition.

11.2. The maritime training course is authorized by the PMA, in accordance with the authorizations given to the Maritime Training Center by means of the corresponding resolutions.

11.3. Measures for the renewal of courses:

1. the participant must submit:
   a) Certificates of maritime training courses may be renewed taking into account their expiration date of up to five (5) years before December 31, 2020, by an authorized Maritime Training Center.
   b) Copy of the seaman's book where it portrays his/her time aboard.
   c) Work experience letters attesting that he/she has performed duties consistent with the certificate he/she holds, in an approved seagoing service, within the five (5) previous years.
   d) Personal identity card or passport.
   e) License in the case of subordinate employees or certificate of competence in the case of officers and masters.
f) If he/she can acquire it, the participant may additionally submit copy of a section of the Security Management System certifying that the crew member has been linked to training sessions, as the case may be (for example, crew familiarization format, drills format, records, among other things).

2. The authorized Maritime Training Center provides the relevant training using e-education tools.

3. The Maritime Training Center shall prepare a document (check list) which shall be duly signed by the participant, in which he/she states that skill demonstrations (practices) were performed aboard.

4. The Maritime Training Center evaluates or examines seafarers to assess that the participant has acquired the skills, knowledge, understanding and sufficiency required by each course, as prescribed in the relevant Section and Table of the STCW Code.

5. The Maritime Training Center ensures delivering a copy of the course certificate to the participant by electronic media. This copy of the certificate will be valid until December 31, 2020. Once the national pandemic (COVID-19) state of emergency ends, the original certificate must be delivered to the participant.

6. The Maritime Training Center delivers the course certificate stating on its template that the approved course corresponds to a course renewal.

7. The Maritime Training Center, through its Quality Management System, ensures that the documentary information collected demonstrates the participant's skills and can verify its validity.

8. The Maritime Training Center does not accept certificates for renewing courses that have undergone changes with the Manila amendments to the STCW'78 Convention.

9. The Maritime Training Center requests experience of no less than three (3) months in the previous five (5) years, either in oil, chemical or gas tankers, when renewal is requested for this type of course.

11.4. The maritime training courses that may be renewed by authorized Maritime Training Centers are:

1. Training for Oil and Chemical Tanker Cargo Operations. (Reg. V/1-1, Paragraph 2.2, Section A-V/1-1, Paragraph 1 and Table A-V/1-1-1).

2. Advanced Training for Oil Tanker Cargo Operations. (Reg. V/1-1, Paragraph 4.3, Section A-V/1-1, Paragraph 2 and Table A-V/1-1-2).
3. Advanced Training for Chemical Tanker Cargo Operations. (Reg. V/1-1, Paragraph 6.3, Section A-V/1-1, Paragraph 3 and Table A-V/1-1-3).

4. Basic Training for Liquefied Gas Tanker Cargo Operations. (Reg. V/1-2, Paragraph 2.2, Section A-V/1-2, Paragraph 1 and Table A-V/1-1-2).


6. Proficiency in Personal Survival Techniques. (Reg. VI/1, Section A-VI/1 Paragraph 2 and Table A-VI/1-1).

7. Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting. (Reg. VI/1, Section A-VI/1 Paragraph 2 and Table A-VI/1-2).

8. Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats other than Fast Rescue Boats. (Reg. VI/2, Section A-VI/2, Paragraph 1-6 and Table A-VI/2-1).

9. Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boat (Reg. VI/2, Section A-VI/2, Paragraph 7-12 and Table A-VI/2-2).

10. General Operator Certificate for GMDSS (Reg. IV/2 Section A-IV/2 Table A-IV/2).

11. Restricted Operator Certificate for GMDSS (Reg. IV/2 Section A-IV/2 Table A-IV/2).

12. Advanced Training in Fire Fighting. (Reg. VI/3, Section A-VI/3 and Table A-VI/3).

13. Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities.(Reg. VI/1, Section A-VI/1 Paragraph 2 and Table A-VI/1-4).

14. Marine Environmental Awareness. (Reg. II/1, III/1 y III/6; Sections A-II/1, A-III/1 and A-III/6; Tables A-II/1, A-III/1, y A-III/6).

15. Security Training for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties. (Reg. VI/6, Paragraphs 4-6, Section A-VI/6, Paragraphs 6-8 and Table A-VI/6-2)

16. Security Awareness Training for All Seafarers. (Reg. VI/6, Paragraphs 1-3, Section A-VI/6, Paragraph 4 and Table A-VI/6-1)

17. Radar Navigation, Radar Plotting and Use of ARPA. Operational Level. (Reg. II/1 y 11/3; Section A-II/1 y 11/3 and Table A-II/1 y A-II/3).

18. Elementary First Aid. (Reg. VI/1, Section A-VI/1 Paragraph 2 and Table A-VI/1-3).

19. Medical First Aid. (Reg. VI/4, Section A-VI/4, Paragraph 1-3, Table A-VI/4-1).

20. Medical Care. (Reg. VI/4, Section A-VI/4, Paragraph 4-6 and Table A-VI/4-2)

21. Operational Use of Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS). (Reg. II/1, II/2 y II/3, Section A-II/1, A-II/2 y A-II/3 and Tables A-II/1, A-II/2, A-II/3).

22. Leadership and Teamwork. (Reg. II/1, III/1 y III/6; Sections A-II/1, A-III/1 and A-III/6; Tables A-II/1, A-III/1 y A-III/6).

23. Passenger Ship Crowd Management Training. (Reg. V/2, Sections A-V/2, Paragraph 3 and Table A-V/2-1).


26. Ship Security Officer. (Reg. VI/5, Section A-VI/5 and Table A-VI/5 of the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended; Chapter XI-2 of the 1974 SOLAS Convention, as amended and Prescriptions 2.1.6 and 12 of Part A of the ISPS Code).

27. Ratings Forming Part of an Engineering Watch. (Reg. III/4, Section A-III/4 and Table A-III/4).

28. Able Seafarer - Deck. (Reg. II/5, Section, A-II/5 and Table A-II/5).


30. Electro-Technical Rating (Reg. III/7, Section A-III/7 and Table A-III/7).

31. High Voltage Installations (Reg. III/1, III/2, III/3 Sections A-III/1, A-III/2, A-III/3 and Tables A-III/1, A-III/2).

32. Passenger Safety, Cargo Safety and Hull Integrity Training. (Reg. V/2, Section A-V/2, Paragraph 5).

33. Radar, Arpa, Bridge Teamwork and Search and Rescue. Management Level. (Reg. II/2, Section A-II/2 and Table A-II/2).

34. Ratings Forming Part of a Navigational Watch. (Reg. II/4, Section A-II/4 and Table A-II/4).


36. Bridge Resource Management (Reg. II/1, Section A-II/1 and Table A-II/1).

37. Engine Room Resource Management. (Reg. III/1, Section A-III/1 and Table A-III/1). 


11.5. The following maritime training courses with entirely theoretical material, may be taught for the first time using electronic teaching tools and applying an examination or final test according to the skills required for each course:

1. Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities. (Reg. VI, Section A-VI/1 and Table A-VI/1-4);

2. Security Awareness Training. (Reg. VI/6, Section A-VI/6 P. 4 and Table A-VI/6-1);

3. Security Training for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties. (Reg. VI/6, Section A-VI/6, P. 6 and Table A-VI/6-2);

4. Marine Environmental Awareness. (Reg. II/1, III/1 and III/6, Section A-II/1, A-III/1 and A-III/6 and Table A-II/1, A-III/1 and A-III/6);
5. Dangerous, Hazardous and Harmful Cargo. (Reg. II/1, II/2 and II/3, Section A-II/1, A-II/2 and A-II/3 and Table A-II/1, A-II/2 and A-II/3);
13. MARPOL Consolidated 73/78 Annex I-VI.

11.6. The maritime training courses with theoretical and practical content that may be taught for the first time to a participant, but that are only authorized to impart the theoretical part are:
1. Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch on Ships of 500 Gross Tonnage or more (Operational Level). (Reg. II/1, Section A-II/1 and Table A-II/1).
2. Officer in Charge of an Engineering Watch in a manned engine-room or as designated duty engineers in a periodically unmanned engine-room. (Operational Level). (Reg. III/1, Section A III/1 and Table A-III/1).
3. Electro-Technical Officer. (Reg. III/6, Section A-III/6 and Table A-III/6).
4. Ratings Forming Part of an Engineering Watch. (Reg. III/4, Section A-III/4 and Table A-III/4).
5. Ordinary Seaman. (N/A).
6. Ratings Forming
7. Wiper (N/A)
9. Hotel Staff

11.7. Authorized Maritime Training Centers must forward to the Department of Maritime Training to the following email: training.department@amp.gob.pa, within fifteen (15) calendar days after the end of the course, the following documentary evidence:
a) Copy of the attendance register of the participants who have taken the training by using a remote, electronic or virtual learning method;

b) Evidence of the electronic teaching tools used by the maritime training center to conduct the virtual training, including videos, photographs, didactic material, forums, workshops, among other things, that prove that the training has been imparted.

c) Copy of the evaluation or examination applied to the participant;

d) Copy of the issued course certificate.

11.8. The Previous Documentary Evaluation (PDE) proceedings can be filed by a Maritime Training Center authorized by the Panama Maritime Authority electronically, always keeping evidence of the process and submitting the certificate reports on a daily and monthly basis to the Maritime Training Department’s email.

12. 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.

June, 2020 – Paragraph 6.1 6.2
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 directed to:

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Directorate General of Merchant Marine
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