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## COVID-19

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### 1. Purpose

- 1.1. This Technical Alert is issued by the Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA) to provide information on COVID-19 (formerly called novel coronavirus or 2019-nCoV) related issues.

### 2. Introduction

- 2.1. General information on COVID-19 is provided in the Annex to this Technical Alert.

### 3. Actions to be taken in case of suspected cases

- 3.1. Where COVID-19 is suspected, medical advice should be sought.
- 3.2. The advice of public health authorities in the country where the ship is located when cases are suspected should be sought and any instructions followed.
- 3.3. Owners/operators are requested to report any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 to the BMA by email: [health@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:health@bahamasmaritime.com).

### 4. Inspections, surveys and audits

- 4.1. As a result of the outbreak and the serious challenges the COVID-19 pandemic poses to the shipping industry, the BMA is taking a pragmatic and practical approach regarding extensions, postponements, etc. as outlined below. These measures are temporary, and their duration will be based on the global evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### 4.2. Bahamas Initial, Annual and Pre-Registration Inspections

- 4.2.1. BMA inspectors have been instructed not to put themselves at risk and likewise not to put ship's crews at risk - this means they will follow the guidance of the health authorities in the country where they are located and may decline to attend ships.
- 4.2.2. Where an initial or annual inspection cannot be carried out before the end of the inspection window, the owner/operator shall advise the BMA Inspections & Surveys department ([tech@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:tech@bahamasmaritime.com)), providing full supporting information. Inspections should be carried out at the first port where an inspector is available.

4.2.3. The requirement for pre-registration inspections is waived until 30 June 2020 for ships up to 20 years of age. Ships over 20 years of age will be considered on a case by case basis and inspection requirements will be advised by BMA. For ships over 12 years of age, a pre-purchase or condition report should be submitted where available.

4.2.4. Notwithstanding para 6.5.3, all ships proposed for registration, with the exception of new builds, remain subject to a pre-registration technical documentation review.

#### 4.3. **Surveys**

4.3.1. Where a surveyor is not able to undertake scheduled surveys due to restrictions imposed by COVID-19, including cancellation of scheduled dry docking and/or bottom survey, and remote survey is not practicable, the BMA authorises its Recognised Organisations to consider applications for extension/postponement under *force majeure* or unforeseen exceptional circumstances and administratively issue short term statutory certificates for up to 3 months without prior approval of the BMA. This is to be followed up by a physical survey at the earliest opportunity.

4.3.2. For statutory surveys delegated to Bahamas Recognised Organisations, the Recognised Organisation shall consider the application, which should include full supporting information, before issuing short-term certification. The Master shall provide a statement to the Recognised Organisation confirming the structure or equipment to be surveyed remains fit for purpose and has not been subject to any damage.

4.3.3. Where the structure or equipment to be surveyed does not remain fit for purpose, or has suffered damage, or the Recognised Organisation does not support the application, the Recognised Organisation shall provide full details to the BMA. The BMA will consider on a case-by-case basis and provide instructions to the Recognised Organisation.

#### 4.4. **ISM and ISPS Internal Audits**

4.4.1. Timely completion of ISM internal audits is amongst the most frequently reported difficulties. The BMA therefore temporarily permits extensions to annual ISM internal audits for up to 3 months, as per para 5.6 of [BMA Information Bulletin 23](#) and para 12.1 of the ISM Code, in cases where it is not physically possible to attend and remote audit is not practicable. This is to be followed up by a physical audit at the earliest opportunity.

4.4.2. The Company Security Officer may postpone internal ISPS audits for up to 3 months in cases where it is not physically possible to attend, and remote audit is not practicable. This is to be followed up by a physical audit at the earliest opportunity.

#### 4.5. **ISM External Audits**

- 4.5.1. For interim ISM DOC audits where it is not physically possible to attend and remote audit is not practicable, the BMA may permit the issue of interim DOC upon receipt by the Recognised Organisation of a statement from the Company confirming that the safety management system is in place and meets the objectives of paragraph 1.2.3 of the ISM Code. This is to be followed up by a physical audit at the earliest opportunity.
- 4.5.2. The requirement for the Recognised Organisation to advise the BMA of any request for audit for the first issue of a Bahamas DOC, as per paragraph 4.4 of [BMA Information Bulletin No.23](#), remains in effect.
- 4.5.3. For interim ISM SMC audits where it is not physically possible to attend and remote audit is not practicable, the BMA permits the issue of interim SMC, without prior approval of the BMA, upon receipt by the Recognised Organisation of a statement from the Master confirming that the safety management system is in place and meets the objectives of paragraph 1.2.3 of the ISM Code. This is to be followed up by a physical audit at the earliest opportunity.
- 4.5.4. For initial ISM DOC and SMC audits where it is not physically possible to attend and remote audit is not practicable, the BMA permits the issue of a second interim DOC/SMC for up to 6 months, without prior approval of the BMA, upon receipt by the Recognised Organisation of a statement from the Company/Master confirming that the safety management system meets the objectives of paragraph 1.2.3 of the ISM Code. This is to be followed up by a physical audit at the earliest opportunity.
- 4.5.5. For SMC and DOC periodical audits, if these are not completed within the range date the certificate ceases to be valid as per ISM Code. In such circumstances, the Recognised Organisation may issue a new SMC or DOC valid for 3 months or until the audit can take place, whichever comes first, without prior approval of the BMA.
- 4.5.6. For SMC and DOC renewal audits, and noting the provisions of ISM Code 13.14, the BMA authorises its Recognised Organisations to issue 3-month extensions, where requested by the Company, to existing SMC and DOC Certificates, without prior approval of the BMA.

#### 4.6. **ISPS External Audits**

- 4.6.1. For interim ISSC audits where it is not physically possible to attend and remote audit is not practicable, the BMA permits the issue of an interim ISSC, without prior approval of the BMA, upon receipt by the Recognised Organisation of a statement from the Company Security Officer **AND** Ship Security Officer confirming that:

- i. A Ship Security Assessment has been completed.
- ii. A copy of the Ship Security Plan (SSP) is on board and there is evidence that the SSP has been submitted to the Recognised Organisation for approval.
- iii. The security measures identified in the Ship Security Plan are in place and the provisions of paragraph 19.4.2 of the ISPS Code have been met.

This is to be followed up by a physical audit at the earliest opportunity.

- 4.6.2. For initial ISSC audits where it is not physically possible to attend and remote audit is not practicable, the BMA permits the issue of a second interim ISSC for up to 6 months upon receipt by the Recognised Organisation of a statement from the Company Security Officer **AND** Ship Security Officer, as per 4.6.1.i to iii, without prior approval of the BMA.

This is to be followed up by a physical audit at the earliest opportunity.

- 4.6.3. For ISSC intermediate audits, if these are not completed within the range date the certificate ceases to be valid as per ISPS Code A19.3.8. In such circumstances, the Recognised Organisation may issue a new SMC or ISSC valid for 3 months or until the audit can take place, whichever comes first, without prior approval of the BMA.
- 4.6.4. For ISSC renewal audits, noting the provisions of ISPS Code A-19.3.5, the BMA authorises its Recognised Organisations to issue 3-month extensions, where requested by the Company, to existing ISSC Certificates, without prior approval of the BMA.

#### 4.7. **Maritime Labour Inspections**

- 4.7.1. For interim MLC inspections where it is not physically possible to attend and remote inspection is not practicable, the BMA permits the issue of an interim MLC for up to 6 months, without prior approval of the BMA, upon receipt by the Recognised Organisation of a statement from the Company/Master confirming that:
- i. the applicable requirements of MLC 2006 have been met.
  - ii. An approved Declaration of Maritime Labour Compliance Part I is on board or evidence provided that it has been requested from the BMA.
  - iii. DMLC Part II is available in draft or evidence provided that it has been submitted to the Recognised Organisation.

This is to be followed up by a physical audit at the earliest opportunity.

- 4.7.2. For initial MLC inspections where it is not physically possible to attend and remote audit is not practicable, the BMA permits the issue of a second interim MLC for up to 6 months, without prior approval of the BMA, upon receipt by the Recognised Organisation of a statement from the Company/Master, as per 4.7.1.i to iii.

This is to be followed up by a physical audit at the earliest opportunity.

- 4.7.3. MLC 2006 does not provide for the issue of extensions to existing MLC Certificates without inspection. However, in this exceptional situation, the BMA authorises its Recognised Organisations to administratively issue a short-term Maritime Labour Certificate for 3 months, without prior approval of the BMA, in cases where the renewal or intermediate inspection cannot be conducted due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- 4.7.4. The Recognised Organisation shall state that the certificate has been issued to allow the ship to continue on its intended voyage and complete the inspection at the first port where inspectors are available. When the renewal or intermediate inspection has been completed a full-term Maritime Labour Certificate may be issued with its expiry date not later than 5 years from the expiry date of the original full-term Maritime Labour Certificate.
- 4.8. **Remote audits and surveys**
- 4.8.1. The BMA will consider requests for remote audits and surveys where supported by the Recognised Organisation.
- 4.9. **The Recognised Organisation shall provide a consolidated weekly report to the BMA (by email to [tech@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:tech@bahamasmaritime.com)) of actions taken under paragraphs 4.3, 4.5, 4.6 & 4.7. The weekly report should be submitted by 1730UTC on the Wednesday of the following week.**
- 4.10. The temporary measures described in paragraphs 4.2 to 4.7 will remain in place until 30 June 2020 and are subject to review as the situation develops.

## **5. Seafarers and manning**

- 5.1. Reference is made to IMO Circular Letter No.4204 and ILO Statement from the "Special Tripartite Committee of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 as amended".
- 5.2. **Seafarer Employment**
- 5.2.1. In cases where crew members may have to continue their service beyond 12 months- or their contractual period onboard as stated in their original Seafarers' Employment Agreement (SEA) because of travel restrictions imposed due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, The Bahamas will consider such extensions to be *force majeure* and therefore not a breach of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, (MLC) as amended.

5.2.2. A new SEA shall be arranged for the crewmembers in question, and it shall be stated that the seafarers are entitled to repatriation at no cost to the seafarer at one week's notice.

5.2.3. The following text shall be inserted into the renewed contract:

*The seafarer is permitted to terminate the contract giving 7 days' notice when the force majeure situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic permits him/her to travel to his/her destination safely and securely.*

5.3. **Expired Medical Certificates**

5.3.1. If any seafarer's Medical Certificate expires whilst he/she is on board, the seafarer can continue his/her service for up to 3 months or until a new certificate can be issued, whatever comes first. If the medical certificate expires prior to 01 July 2020 the validity of the certificate is automatically extended to 01 October 2020.

5.3.2. Seafarers, who are on leave, and their Medical Certificates have expired after 31 March 2020, are permitted to commence their service onboard ships until 01 July 2020.

5.4. **Expired STCW Certificates and Certificates of Recognition (Endorsements)**

5.4.1. If a Certificate of Competency (CoC) or a Certificate of Proficiency (COP) that The Bahamas has endorsed expires and the issuing State has extended the period for which the certificate is valid, this document/endorsement shall automatically be extended by The Bahamas for the same period.

5.4.2. If a Certificate of Competency (CoC) or a Certificate of Proficiency (CoP) that The Bahamas has issued expires prior to the 01 October 2020, the validity period is extended until latest 01 October 2020. This rule also applies for CoP's that training institutions, that are approved by Bahamas, have issued.

5.4.3. The BMA recognises that all CoPs that are issued by other States (these do not need to be endorsed) are valid for use on Bahamian ships for the period that the issuing State has allowed, including CoPs that are extended to no later than 01 October 2020.

5.4.4. All STCW, MLC and Minimum Safe Manning Documents will be issued electronically by e-mail during COVID-19 restrictions and will not be printed. The documents will be printed on their respective templates and couriered to clients as soon as the measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus have been lifted.

## 5.5. **Seaman's Record Books**

- 5.5.1. The BMA is currently restricted in the use of courier and mail services to send seaman's record books to clients.
- 5.5.2. Where seafarers are not in possession of a Seaman's Record Book, the BMA requests that the Master issues a Record of Service as stipulated in paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4 of [BMA Information Bulletin No. 107](#).
- 5.5.3. Notwithstanding the above, the BMA will still issue Seaman's Record Books and clients are encouraged to apply online through the BORIS electronic system. When the Seaman's Record Book is issued the BMA will send an electronic copy to the client to be used onboard. A copy of the Record of Service template, for use with the electronic copy of the Seaman's book, is attached.
- 5.5.4. The BMA will send the original Seaman's Record Books by courier as usual when full access to courier services is available.
- 5.5.5. Sea service should be transferred to the hard copy of the Seaman's Record Book from the Record of Service, referred to in paragraph 5.5.3, either by the Master who signed the Record of Service or by the Company.

## 6. **Certificates and Documents**

- 6.1. Hard copy certificates will continue to be provided by the BMA as usual, provided that postal/courier services remain in operation.
- 6.2. The BMA may issue scanned copies of hard copy certificates in order to ensure that ships have copies of current documents on board.
- 6.3. The validity of any certificate can be verified by contacting the BMA.

## 7. **Further information**

- 7.1. Bahamas Ministry of Health:
  - i. [Home Page](#)
- 7.2. World Health Organization:
  - i. [Rolling Updates](#)
  - ii. [Information and Guidance on COVID-19](#)
- 7.3. International Maritime Organization:
  - i. [Coronavirus Information Page](#)
  - ii. [Circular Letter No.4204 \(31 January 2020\)](#)

- iii. [Circular Letter No.4204/Add.1 \(19 February 2020\)](#)
  - iv. [Circular Letter No.4204/Add.2 \(21 February 2020\)](#)
  - v. [Circular Letter No.4204/Add.3 \(02 March 2020\)](#)
  - vi. [Circular Letter No.4204/Add.4 \(05 March 2020\)](#)
  - vii. [Circular Letter No.4204/Add.5/Rev.1 \(02 April 2020\)](#)  
[Circular Letter No.4204/Add.6 \(27 March 2020\)](#)
  - viii. [Circular Letter No.4204/Add.7 \(03 April 2020\)](#)
- 7.4. Further information is also available from a number of industry bodies, governmental and inter-governmental agencies.

## **8. Validity**

- 8.1. This Technical Alert is valid until further notice.



## 1. Coronaviruses

1.1. Coronaviruses (CoV) are a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases, such as, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV). These viruses are zoonotic, meaning that they are transmitted between animals and people. A novel coronavirus (nCoV) is a new strain which has not been previously identified in humans.

1.2. Common signs of infection with this virus include:

- respiratory symptoms,
- fever,
- cough,
- shortness of breath and
- breathing difficulties.

1.3. In more severe cases, infection can cause:

- pneumonia,
- severe acute respiratory syndrome,
- kidney failure and
- even death.

1.4. Standard recommendations to prevent the spread of this infection include:

- regular proper hand washing,
- covering mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing,
- thoroughly cooking meat and eggs and
- avoiding close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness such as coughing and sneezing.

1.5. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 outbreak an international pandemic (a worldwide occurrence of the virus) on 11 March 2020. The situation is evolving daily.

1.6. Owners/operators should ensure that standard recommendations to prevent the spread of infection are implemented on their ships.

1.7. Owners/operators should also ensure that they are aware of any local reporting requirements in their ships' areas of operation, in case of any crew members or passengers showing signs of infection.

1.8. Prior to entering ports identified as having been affected by the outbreak of COVID-19 owners/operators should make appropriate risk assessments and take appropriate measures.



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS  
**SHIPPING DEPUTY MINISTRY**

Circular No. 8/2020

31 March 2020

SDM 5.13.09  
SDM 12.3.01.36. 02

To all Registered Owners, Registered Bareboat Charterers,  
Managers and Representatives of Ships flying the Cyprus Flag

**Subject: Urgent Provisional Measures for the operation of Cyprus ships during the Covid-19 outbreak.**

In an effort to support shipping companies and owners of Cyprus ships and to enable them to address the difficulties encountered due to the coronavirus outbreak, the Shipping Deputy Ministry (SDM) has put in place special arrangements for its smooth operation and the effective provision of services to its clients and collaborators ([Circular No. 6/2020](#)).

In response to these unprecedented and continuously changing conditions, as well as the need for continuous updates and information arising from this **force majeure** situation, the Cyprus Maritime Administration has prepared a [dedicated section](#) in its website where all related information and circulars issued by the SDM, Cyprus, the EU and the IMO regarding Covid -19 can be found:

[www.shipping.gov.cy](http://www.shipping.gov.cy)

The Shipping Deputy Ministry remains **fully operational** and continues to provide its high-quality services without any disruption, so that all ships registered under the Cyprus flag will continue to operate as usual. Our arrangements ensure the timely completion of registry and other transactions without any interruption and encourage the continuity of trade and the maintenance of the supply chain. The Registrar of Cyprus Ships assures all those concerned that a degree of flexibility will be permitted wherever this is deemed necessary.

Furthermore, the SDM outlines below a number of urgent provisional measures adopted relating to the following matters:

**A. Seafarers' Certification**

In light of the recent developments and the difficulties encountered in crew changes worldwide, the Shipping Deputy Ministry has adopted the following measures applicable to **seafarers that joined the ship prior 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2020 and remain on board with a renewed contract:**



1. **Certificates of Competency** and **Certificates of Proficiency** issued by the Republic of Cyprus which have expired or will be expiring after 01/03/2020 will be extended until **01/09/2020**.
2. **Medical Fitness Certificates** and **Seafarer's Identification and Sea Service Record Books** issued by the Republic of Cyprus which have expired or will be expiring after 01/03/2020 will be considered valid until **01/09/2020**.
3. **Cyprus endorsements** attesting the recognition of national certificates of competency which have expired or will be expiring after 01/03/2020 will be extended for a **maximum period up to 01/09/2020**, or an earlier date as provided by a similar extension issued by the Competent Authorities of the Country which issued the certificate of competency.

## **B. Statutory Surveys for Internationally Trading vessels**

We acknowledge that Cyprus flag vessels and their operators alike are encountering increasing difficulties in arranging the surveys, audits, inspections and servicing activities required under national and international regulations due to a lack of availability of surveyors and auditors, travel restrictions, limited access to port facilities and the shutdown of many airports around the globe. For this reason, the following arrangements will apply:

**Surveys in areas not affected by Covid-19:** Operators are urged to consider arranging surveys/ audits/ inspections of their vessels as early as possible and, if practicable, within the window provided by the relevant international maritime Conventions at locations and under conditions which will not adversely affect the health of the personnel involved.

**Extension of surveys:** Extension of the annual/ intermediate/ periodic or renewal surveys is possible for all ships' statutory certificates, subject to authorisation. Extension is possible for up to 3 months from the last date of the window survey, provided that this request is supported by the Classification society of the vessel.

**Remote Inspection:** The Administration may also accept a remote inspection in lieu of the onboard survey, whenever the Recognised Organisation (RO) proposes that any of the above-mentioned surveys may be carried out by remote inspection techniques.

**Short Term Certificate:** In the event that the authorised RO is unable to attend the vessel to complete a survey or inspection leading to the endorsement or renewal of a relevant certificate, then a short-term certificate may be issued with validity of not more than 3 months from the date of expiration of the current certificate or the closure of the required window for the conduct of the required activity. It remains the responsibility of the operator and the Master to ensure that the vessel is maintained and operated in accordance with the statutory requirements for the duration of the short-term certificate.

**Re-alignment of Certificate dates:** On expiration of the short-term certificate, or earlier if circumstances permit, a survey or inspection, must be completed and a new certificate issued, **aligned with the expiration date of the previous certificate.**

### **C. International Safety Management (ISM) Code & International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code Verifications**

If, due to restrictions imposed as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, an auditor or inspector cannot attend ISM/ISPS upcoming inspections, audits, or verifications due **before 01 July 2020**, a Recognised Organisation (RO) or Recognised Security Organisation (RSO) must notify the Administration and obtain relevant authorisation, unless specified otherwise, as follows:

#### **1. ISM Code**

**Internal Annual ISM Verification:** Authorisation is required for a 3-month extension to the 12-month interval for shore-side and shipboard internal audits. The audit may be postponed for a further 3 months without further authorisation from the Administrator. For audits to be carried out during the 3-month extension period, the Administrator will accept a remote audit in lieu of a physical audit. No further authorisation to carry out a remote internal audit is required from the Administrator. This may also be applied to internal audits which are required to be completed prior to the external verification.

**Initial ISM Verification:** Authorisation is required for an extension of the Interim Safety Management Certificate (SMC) with validity for a minimum period required to complete the initial verification and for a period no longer than 3 months.

**Intermediate ISM Verification:** Authorisation is required for the issuance of a short-term SMC that is valid for a period of no longer than 3 months.

**Renewal ISM Verification:** Authorisation is required for an extension of the SMC for no longer than 3 months.

**Document of Compliance Verification:** Authorisation is required for the issuance of a short-term DOC, valid for a period of no longer than 3 months, in the event that a company is unable to complete the necessary verifications due to the current Covid-19 circumstances.

#### **2. ISPS Code**

**Internal Annual ISPS Verification:** Internal Audits ISPS Verification may be postponed for up to 3 months without further authorisation from the Administration. For audits to be carried out during the 3-month extension period, the Administrator will accept a remote audit in lieu of a physical audit. No further authorisation to carry out a remote internal audit is required from the Administrator. This may also be applied to internal audits which are required to be completed prior to the external verification.

**Initial ISPS Verification:** The Administration will authorise a consecutive Interim International Ship Security Certificate (ISSC) with validity for the minimum period required to complete the initial verification and for a period no longer than 3 months.

**Intermediate ISPS Verification:** Authorisation is required for the issuance of a short-term ISSC with validity of no longer than 3 months.

**Renewal ISPS Verification:** Authorisation is required for an extension of the ISSC for no longer than 3 months.

### **3. Remote Audits**

The Administration may also accept a remote audit in lieu of the onboard audit, whenever the RO/RSO confirms that such audits may be carried out by remote auditing techniques.

#### **D. Guidance for Recognised Organisations**

Where an RO is able to conduct a survey on board a vessel in compliance with the normal course of survey and certification, no notification to the SDM is required and the relevant certificate may be issued or endorsed as necessary. In the case of ISM and ISPS related audits, the associated RO is obliged to inform the SDM as per Circular No. [03/2019](#) at [ism@dms.gov.cy](mailto:ism@dms.gov.cy) and as per Circular No. [24/2015](#) at [maritime.security@dms.gov.cy](mailto:maritime.security@dms.gov.cy)

For statutory certificates issued by an RO, and the issuance of a short-term certificate or extension as provided on the basis of this Circular, the SDM should be notified electronically as soon as practicable at [shipsafety@dms.gov.cy](mailto:shipsafety@dms.gov.cy)

#### **E. Compulsory Insurance**

Owners and Managers of Cyprus flagged ships remain liable to maintain at all times compulsory insurance in force and, if applicable, carry on board relevant Certificate(s) in hard copy or electronic format under the 2006 MLC Convention, the 2001 Bunkers Convention, the 1992 CLC Convention, the 2007 Nairobi Wreck Removal Convention, Directive 2009/20/EC and the Athens PLR Regulation (EC) No.392/2009, to the extent that these instruments apply.

The Shipping Deputy Ministry is at the disposal of Owners, Managers and anyone concerned to provide any information or clarifications they may require.

**This Circular must be placed on board vessels flying the Cyprus flag.**



**Stavros Michael  
Acting Permanent Secretary  
Shipping Deputy Ministry**

CC:

- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Maritime Offices of the Shipping Deputy Ministry abroad
- Inspectors of Cyprus Ships
- Diplomatic Missions and Honorary Consular Offices of the Republic
- Recognised Organisations (Ros)
- Cyprus Shipping Chamber
- Cyprus Union of Ship-owners
- Cyprus Master Mariners Association
- Association of Merchant Marine Officers
- Recognised maritime training schools
- Trade Union SEK
- Trade Union PEO
- Trade Union DEOK
- Cyprus Bar Association

# Republic of the Marshall Islands

## MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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### MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY No. 14-20

**To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Nautical Inspectors, Recognized Organizations**

**Subject: HANDLING THE VALIDITY OF SHIP CERTIFICATES DUE TO COVID-19**

**Date: 24 March 2020**

This Marine Safety Advisory (MSA) provides information on handling ship certification and survey challenges due to restrictions imposed as a result of the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. It applies to statutory surveys coming due prior to 01 July 2020. This guidance will be kept under review and updated as necessary. This MSA specifically does not address passenger ships.

#### 1.0 General

- 1.1 The Republic of the Marshall Islands Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) recognizes that due to the COVID-19 pandemic there will be difficulties encountered when scheduling docking or repair facilities for statutory survey requirements, necessitating an extension of docking and other surveys. It is also recognized that local quarantine measures may prevent surveyors, superintendents, and technicians from attending ships.
- 1.2 Where the Recognized Organization (RO) considers that there is a reasonable case for force majeure due to COVID-19, the Administrator will favorably consider an application to extend survey windows and allow a ship to continue trading for up to three months. Further extensions are presented later in this MSA. While force majeure may be applicable to all ships, an extension to continue to trade must not be provided to ships which for one reason or another are suspected to be substandard, or ships with unique characteristics where the RO would not facilitate a further extension of trading.
- 1.3 A reasonable case for force majeure due to COVID-19 may include the ship being quarantined, or if there are travel or quarantine restrictions preventing the necessary surveyor(s), essential superintendents, technicians or service teams attending, and the limitation of any specialised equipment, facility, or essential spares being delivered to the ship.
- 1.4 In all cases the RO must maintain a record of ships receiving extensions to surveys or certificates and ensure the Administrator is kept informed about the ongoing status.

This MSA expires one (1) year after its issuance, unless otherwise noted, extended, superseded, or revoked.

- 1.5 With regards to surveyor attendance to witness rectification of statutory deficiencies of a minor nature, the Administrator has no objection to an alternative evidence-based proposal which is acceptable to the RO.
- 1.6 The guidance below outlines a practical approach to compliance during this pandemic. If the RO has a proposal other than below then these will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Administrator.

## **2.0 Certificates covered by this MSA**

- 2.1 This MSA provides guidance on maintaining validity of statutory certificates issued under the following Conventions:
- International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)
  - International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)
  - International Convention on Load Lines, 1966, as Amended by the Protocol of 1988 (Load Line)
  - International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (BWMC)
- 2.2 Please refer to the Administrator's COVID-19 [webpage](#) for guidance on certificates issued in accordance with the International Safety Management Code, the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code, and the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006.

## **3.0 Extending the period between dry-docks and the validity of certificates for up to three months**

Notwithstanding force majeure cases already presented in §1.0 of this MSA, for renewal extensions of up to three months please refer to [Technical Circular No. 13](#).

## **4.0 Extending the period between dry-docks and the validity of certificates for more than three months**

- 4.1 For extensions due to extreme extenuating circumstances, provided there is evidence suggesting best efforts have been made to secure dry-dock space, the Administrator will consider extensions to intermediate and renewal dry-docking beyond three months. The current limit of this extension will be up to six months. This will be kept under review as the result of the efforts to tackle the pandemic become clearer. The operator should apply to the RO for an extension and prepare the ship to allow a survey to the maximum extent possible while out of a dry-dock. The extent of this preparation must be agreed with the RO prior to commencement of surveys.



- 4.2 The ship's Classification Society (Class) must also be willing to consider the validity of the main Class certificate, since in accordance with International Maritime Organization (IMO) Circular [MSC-MEPC.5/Circ.1](#), "the extension period of the relevant statutory certificate(s) should not exceed the period of validity of the certificate which may be issued to document compliance with the structural, mechanical and electrical requirements of the recognized classification society."
- 4.3 All Class and statutory surveys must have been progressed as far as practicable while afloat, leaving only the minimum pending items to be checked in dry-dock. Where it is relevant to the age and type of ship, and safe to do so, the scope of the survey should also give consideration to the enhanced survey program. Any minor deficiencies can be recorded as Conditions of Class, or Statutory Conditions, as appropriate, with due date until dry-docking. Major deficiencies must be rectified. Class and short-term statutory certificates should be issued to reflect the pending items that remain to be tested and surveyed.

## **5.0 Ships experiencing problems installing and commissioning Ballast Water Management Systems (BWMS)**

The following is advice for when the date for D-2 compliance for a ship has passed and there are issues installing and commissioning a BWMS. The ship must maintain an approved plan for conducting a D-1 ballast water exchange. A remark should be made in the Ballast Water Record Book that the BWMS is not operational and covered by a short-term certificate. The below are some specific scenarios; others may be dealt with in a similar manner.

- 5.1 The ship cannot enter a dry-dock.
- 5.1.1 Consider extending certificate renewal and maintain the current D-1 Ballast Water Management option on International Ballast Water Management Certificate (IBWMC). See [Technical Circular No. 13](#).
- 5.2 The ship can enter a dry-dock but is not able to install the BWMS because the equipment is in another location with quarantine restrictions.
- 5.2.1 Consider continuing with the dry-dock and preparing the ship to receive the BWMS and complete the installation without going back to dry-dock. The RO may issue a short term IBWMC, valid for three months, indicating the D-1 Ballast Water Management method. The certificate should be annotated with text to the effect: "The BWMS could not be installed due to COVID-19. Prior to any ballast discharge the relevant coastal State must be contacted to discuss contingency measures, guidance on these can be found in IMO Circular [BWM.2/Circ.62](#). The ship has a ballast water exchange method approved to the D-1 standard and the Administrator has no objections to D-1 exchange being used in-lieu of the BWMS, however concurrence from the coastal State must be obtained before this option can be used."

5.2.2 Alternatively, consider delaying the dry-dock (see §5.1 above).

5.3 The ship is able install the BWMS, but due to travel restrictions/quarantine is unable to commission the BWMS.

5.3.1 Complete the dry-dock and BWMS installation, and renew all certificates. The RO may issue a short-term IBWMC, valid for three months, indicating only the D-2 Ballast Water Management method. The certificate should be annotated with text to the effect: “The BWMS is not functional. Prior to any ballast discharge the relevant coastal State must be contacted to discuss contingency measures, guidance on these can be found in IMO Circular [BWM.2/Circ.62](#). The ship has a ballast water exchange method approved to the D-1 standard and the Administrator has no objections to D-1 exchange being used in-lieu of the BWMS, however concurrence from the coastal State must be obtained before this option can be used.”

## 6.0 Contact

All inquiries regarding information in this MSA should be sent to the Administrator at: [technical@register-iri.com](mailto:technical@register-iri.com).

# Republic of the Marshall Islands

## MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

11495 COMMERCE PARK DRIVE, RESTON, VIRGINIA 20191-1506

TELEPHONE: +1-703-620-4880 FAX: +1-703-476-8522

EMAIL: maritime@register-iri.com WEBSITE: www.register-iri.com

### MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY No. 11-20

**To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Nautical Inspectors, Recognized Organizations**

**Subject: HANDLING ISM, ISPS, AND MLC, 2006 DUE TO THE EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCE OF COVID-19**

**Date: 26 March 2020**

Please note that §1.1 has been updated to provide further clarification.

This Marine Safety Advisory (MSA) provides information on alternative arrangements where an auditor or inspector cannot attend due to restrictions imposed as a result of the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. It applies to inspections, audits, and verifications coming due prior to 01 July 2020. Except as otherwise stated within this MSA, a Recognized Organization (RO) or Recognized Security Organization (RSO) must inform and obtain concurrence from the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) when utilizing these alternatives.

#### **1.0 International Safety Management (ISM) Code**

##### **1.1 Internal Annual ISM Verification**

The Administrator will allow for a three-month extension to the 12-month interval for shoreside and shipboard internal audits, as it has determined that COVID-19 constitutes an *exceptional circumstance* for the purposes of §7.4 of RMI Marine Notice [2-011-13](#) and ISM Code §12.1. In the affected cases, the audit may be postponed for up to three months without further authorization from the Administrator.

For audits to be carried out during the three-month extension period, the Administrator will accept a remote audit in lieu of a physical audit if it meets all the requirements in Part A of §12 of the ISM Code. No further authorization to carry out a remote internal audit is required from the Administrator. This may also be applied to internal audits which are required to be completed prior to the external verification.

##### **1.2 External Initial ISM Verification**

The Administrator will authorize an extension of the Interim Safety Management Certificate (SMC) in accordance with ISM Code §14.3. The validity will be for the minimum period required to complete the initial verification.

This MSA expires one (1) year after its issuance, unless otherwise noted, extended, superseded, or revoked.

### 1.3 Intermediate ISM Verification

The Administrator will authorize the issuance of a short-term SMC that is valid for a period of no longer than three months. Supporting documentation from the RO must show that the Company's original request for the verification was made prior to the SMC's third anniversary date.

### 1.4 External Renewal ISM Verification

The Administrator will authorize an extension of the SMC for no longer than three months in accordance with ISM Code §13.14.

### 1.5 Document of Compliance Verification

Where a Company cannot complete the required Document of Compliance (DOC) verifications in accordance with ISM Code, the Administrator will authorize the issuance of a short-term DOC. This will be handled on a case-by-case basis upon a recommendation from the RO.

## **2.0 International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code**

### 2.1 Internal Annual ISPS Verification

Refer to §1.1 of this MSA.

### 2.2 Initial ISPS Verification

The Administrator will authorize a consecutive Interim International Ship Security Certificate (ISSC) in accordance with ISPS Code A-19.4.5. The validity will be for the minimum period required to complete the initial verification.

### 2.3 Intermediate ISPS Verification

The Administrator will authorize the issuance of a short-term ISSC that is valid for a period of no longer than three months. Supporting documentation from the RSO must show that the Company's original request for the verification was made prior to the ISSC's third anniversary date.

### 2.4 Renewal ISPS Verification

The Administrator will authorize an extension of the ISSC for no longer than three months in accordance with ISPS Code A-19.3.5.

### **3.0 Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006)**

MLC, 2006 does not provide for the extension of initial, intermediate, or renewal inspections. However, where there is adequate justification and supporting documentation that an inspector is unable to attend, a short-term certificate may be issued. The validity will be for the minimum period required to complete the required inspection.

### **4.0 Contact**

All queries regarding information in this MSA should be sent to the Administrator at: [technical@register-iri.com](mailto:technical@register-iri.com).

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## **COVID-19: Changes to BMA Office Hours**

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### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1. This Technical Alert issued by the Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA) to provide information on its office opening hours due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 1.2. Please see also [Technical Alert 20-03](#)

### **2. Introduction**

- 2.1. As a precautionary measure, the BMA has adjusted its operational times for its offices.

### **3. Opening Hours**

- 3.1. The working hours for Hong Kong Office remain 09:30-17:30 hrs, however, the physical attendance for external customers at the office is limited to 11:00-15:00 hrs.
- 3.2. New York, Piraeus, London, Tokyo and Nassau offices are physically closed but staff are working remotely during normal office hours 09:30-17:30. External attendance is by prior arrangement only and meetings will be held via video conference.
- 3.3. When shipping documents, etc. to the Tokyo office, please be aware that the delivery will be forwarded to the office manager's house and will be delayed a couple of days due to the forwarding process. Further, it is requested 1) to select DHL or Japan Post for shipper company and/or 2) especially where another shipping company is selected, to inform Tokyo office of the details of the shipping company, the shipping bill # and, if possible, expected arriving date, etc. by emailing the copy of shipping bill to [tokyo@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:tokyo@bahamasmaritime.com) well in advance of the delivery reaching the office.

### **4. Contact Info**

#### **4.1. Email:**

- 4.1.1. All email addresses remain operational and will be answered as usual.

#### **4.2. Telephone Numbers:**

##### **4.2.1. *London***

- i. General: +44 20 3869 8756  
[reception@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:reception@bahamasmaritime.com)

- ii. Registration: +44 20 3869 8760  
[reg@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:reg@bahamasmaritime.com) +44 20 7562 1310  
+44 20 7562 1313  
+44 20 7562 1314  
+44 20 7562 1325  
+44 20 7562 1335  
+44 20 7562 1341
  - iii. Seafarers & Manning: +44 20 3869 8759  
[stcw@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:stcw@bahamasmaritime.com)
  - iv. MLC +44 20 3869 8759  
[mlc@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:mlc@bahamasmaritime.com)
  - v. Inspections & Surveys: +44 20 3869 8758  
[tech@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:tech@bahamasmaritime.com) +44 20 7562 1343  
+44 20 7562 1346
  - vi. Finance, Administration & IT: +44 20 3869 8751  
[finance@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:finance@bahamasmaritime.com)
  - vii. Investigations: +44 20 3869 8750  
[casualty@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:casualty@bahamasmaritime.com) +44 20 7562 1318  
+44 20 7562 1348  
+44 20 7562 1311
  - viii. Publications: +44 20 3869 8755  
[publications@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:publications@bahamasmaritime.com)
  - ix. Maritime Affairs: +44 20 7562 1317  
[ma@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:ma@bahamasmaritime.com)
- 4.2.2. *Nassau*
- i. [nassau@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:nassau@bahamasmaritime.com) +1 242 356 5772
- 4.2.3. *New York*
- i. Registration & Publications: +1 212 829 0283  
+1 917 640 0291
  - ii. Operations: +1 212 829 0157  
+1 914 291 6968  
[newyork@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:newyork@bahamasmaritime.com)
- 4.2.4. *Hong Kong*

- i. +852 2522 0095  
[hongkong@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:hongkong@bahamasmaritime.com)

4.2.5. *Piraeus*

- i. +30 697 3990 492  
[greece@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:greece@bahamasmaritime.com)

4.2.6. *Tokyo*

- i. +81 3 6402 5274  
[tokyo@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:tokyo@bahamasmaritime.com)

- 4.2.7. BMA Emergency Response Officer +44 7977 471 220

## 5. **Validity**

- 5.1. This Technical Alert is valid until further notice.



**AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA DE PANAMÁ  
(PANAMÁ MARITIME AUTHORITY)  
DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE MARINA MERCANTE  
(GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF MERCHANT MARINE)  
DEPARTAMENTO DE CONTROL Y CUMPLIMIENTO  
(DEPARTMENT OF CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE)**

F-410  
(DCCM)  
V.00



**Merchant Marine Notice  
COVID-19 Request for Postponement- Extension of Statutory Certification & Services**

**No.: MMN-07/2020**

**March, 2020**

**This Merchant Marine Notice has the purpose to inform all ships' owners/operators, Recognized Organizations and other interested parties on how to proceed in case of request for postponement-extension of statutory certification & services.**

As the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of the novel coronavirus a pandemic, it is vital that all governments remind that around 90% of global trade is transported by commercial shipping, which moves the world's food, energy and commercial goods (among them medical supplies).

It is our intention to contribute to keep maritime trade moving in this time of global crisis, in particular by facilitating the postponement-extension of all statutory certification, all survey services including ISM Code/ISPS Code audits and inspections related to MLC, 2006, in addition this is also applicable to Annual Safety Inspection (ASI) established by our flag, this exceptional measures are taken essentially in response to the current shut-downs, lock downs, and travel restrictions, implemented by several States worldwide.

**The Panama Maritime Authority, committed to preserve the safety on board and the prevention of oil pollution is allowing its Recognized Organizations to:**

1. Postpone/Extend all surveys, audits and inspections for a period of three (3) months, subject to a subsequent revalidation or reinstatement of the correspondent certificate, therefore:
  - a. The RO shall ensure that all statutory certificates remain valid using remote surveys or visits whenever is possible. However, in those cases that a remote survey or visits are not possible to be carried out, the RO is authorized to maintain the validity of the statutory certificate for the grace period aforementioned. All records justifying each case according to the circumstances shall be kept and remain available to any Port State Control Authority and as well as this Administration.

It is highly requested the cooperation and prompt communication to this Administration in case of facing any difficulty or inconveniences during this time,

to enabling us to act as quickly as possible with the required assistance (see contacts table below).

2. Annual services of life saving appliances and firefighting equipment's with due date between March and May 2020, are allowed for an immediate extension valid for one (1) month subject to the agreement of the Recognized Organization. Extensions required for a longer period will be granted on a case by case basis, for the maximum period of three (3) months provided that supporting evidence of each case is presented to [extensions@segumar.com](mailto:extensions@segumar.com).
3. Ship-owners/operators of those ships currently holding a Conditional Certificate related to a deficiency or damage onboard, shall contact us if the necessary malfunction, repair or administrative related matter is not possible to rectify, carry out or be provided; an email along with supporting evidence of each case shall be sent to [conditionals@segumar.com](mailto:conditionals@segumar.com). Please make sure the Recognized Organization responsible to issue the correspondent certificates is agree with the conditions on board.
4. The validity of all statutory certificates (except for Conditional Certificates) expiring between March and May 2020 are extended exceptionally for three (3) months, including among them:
  - a. Maritime Labour Certificate (MLC, 2006)
  - b. Safety Management Certificate (SMC)
  - c. Document of Compliance (DOC)
  - d. International Ship Security Certificate (ISSC)
  - e. International Tonnage Certificate (ITC-69)
  - f. International Ballast Water Management Certificate (IBWMC)
  - g. Exemption Certificates
5. Color copy of original signed Ships Registry Certificates (Patent) and Radio Station License issued by this Administration are considered valid for three (3) months, from its issue date.
6. Soft copy Exemption Certificates and Minimum Safe Manning Certificates for MODU/MOU issued by this Administration are considered valid for three (3) months, from the certificate issue date.
7. The postponement/Extension of the inspection of the outside ships' bottom will continue to be processed on a case by case basis. Please follow the guidelines provided in our Merchant Marine Circular No.204.
8. In case of ISPS Code related matters, please refer to paragraph 9 in our Merchant Marine Notice MMN-002/2020, posted on March 24, 2020.

9. The following table provides the contact email addresses of our Segumar offices posted around the world:

<b>Americas</b>	
SEGUMAR Panama	<a href="mailto:extensions@segumar.com">extensions@segumar.com</a> , <a href="mailto:conditionals@segumar.com">conditionals@segumar.com</a> , <a href="mailto:authorizations@segumar.com">authorizations@segumar.com</a>
SEGUMAR Miami	<a href="mailto:segumar.miami@segumar.com">segumar.miami@segumar.com</a>
SEGUMAR Houston	<a href="mailto:offshore@segumar.com">offshore@segumar.com</a>
<b>Asia</b>	
SEGUMAR Tokyo	<a href="mailto:segumar@panaconsul-tokyo.com">segumar@panaconsul-tokyo.com</a>
SEGUMAR Imabari	<a href="mailto:segumar.imabari@segumar.com">segumar.imabari@segumar.com</a> <a href="mailto:rchacon@segumarimabari.jp">rchacon@segumarimabari.jp</a>
SEGUMAR Seoul	<a href="mailto:segumarseoul@segumar.com">segumarseoul@segumar.com</a>
SEGUMAR Busan	<a href="mailto:segumarbusan@segumar.com">segumarbusan@segumar.com</a>
SEGUMAR Singapore	<a href="mailto:segumar.sg@segumar.com">segumar.sg@segumar.com</a>
SEGUMAR Shanghai	<a href="mailto:segumar.shanghai@segumar.com">segumar.shanghai@segumar.com</a>
SEGUMAR Manila	<a href="mailto:segumar.manila@segumar.com">segumar.manila@segumar.com</a>
<b>Europe</b>	
SEGUMAR Piraeus	<a href="mailto:segumarpg@segumar.com">segumarpg@segumar.com</a> ;
SEGUMAR Istanbul	<a href="mailto:segumarist@segumar.com">segumarist@segumar.com</a>
SEGUMAR London	<a href="mailto:segumar.uk@segumar.com">segumar.uk@segumar.com</a>
<b>Middle East</b>	
SEGUMAR Dubai	<a href="mailto:segumar.dubai@segumar.com">segumar.dubai@segumar.com</a>

10. The implementation of these instructions is due to the urgency related to Covid-19. However, as soon as the crises overcome, and restrictions imposed by each State have

raised, we will return to our regular procedures, and a review of the new mechanisms implemented will take place.

**We recommend all interested parties to continue monitoring the situation by consulting the Marine Notices and procedures communicated by the WHO, the IMO, and each Recognized Organization.**

**April, 2020** – *In point 1, content in letter a) amended and content in letter b) deleted; Point 4 letter h) deleted due to ambiguity; point 5 split in 5) original signed and 6) soft copy of MSMC for MODU/MOU added, next points renumbered and last note add WHO and IMO.*

**March, 2020.**

***Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any other request should be directed to:***

***Maritime Ship Security Department  
Directorate General of Merchant Marine  
Panama Maritime Authority***

***Phone: (507) 501 5348  
(507) 501 5350***

***E-mail: [rberrocal@segumar.com](mailto:rberrocal@segumar.com)  
[deputychief@segumar.com](mailto:deputychief@segumar.com)***

# PRESS RELEASE

PR0520

03 April 2020

## **Liberia Conducts First Ever Remote Flag Inspection**

The Liberian Registry continues to adjust to the disruptions caused by COVID-19 by leveraging its use of technology and modern communication. The latest innovation from Liberia is the implementation of remote Annual Safety Inspections (ASI) aboard their ships. The option to use remote inspections is a direct response to the major restrictions faced by dispatching inspectors aboard ships, under the current health guidelines and restrictions around the globe. This is just the next in series of contingency measures implemented in the past few weeks as COVID-19 has ravaged its way across the globe. Liberia led the way as the first flag State to allow remote vessel closings and instrument recordation, remote Class surveys, and now this Remote Annual Safety Inspection programme.

The Registry successfully completed the first remote ASI this past week. Liberia's qualified inspection team was able to liaise with the ship's crew remotely via web-based video communication and review the ASI checklist, check documents, check safety equipment, review drills, and inspect the condition of the vessels and functionality of the safety equipment; all without putting the health of crew and inspector at risk due to possible exposure.

Liberia has long been known as the leading flag State for advanced technologies. With over ten years of experience in electronic certificates, application systems, and client-focused portals, the Registry has always taken technological innovations to the next level as it has led the way in adapting to the challenges facing the maritime industry.

In addition to allowing the flexibility to extend surveys, drydockings, credentials, and other certificates, the Registry understands the important need, and duty of the flag State, to maintain effective oversight over its fleet and ensure the seaworthiness and safety of its vessels and seafarers, and compliance with international conventions. That is why so much effort was put into coming up with a comprehensive remote inspection checklist and procedure.

Chief Operating Officer of the Liberian International Ship and Corporate Registry (LISCR), Alfonso Castellero states, "I have to applaud our very experienced and knowledgeable Inspections team for their very practical and real-world solution, which ensures that the flag State is able to carry out its obligation of safety oversight of its fleet in a way that is not burdensome to the vessels, nor puts the health of the crew and inspectors

in jeopardy. Flag States must still maintain a culture of safety and oversight over their vessels, especially given the current state of the industry with crews not able to be repatriated timely, and sailing for extended periods in excess of what is allowed. We feel for our seafarers at sea, and for the operators ashore, that are doing their utmost to ensure the safe operation of their vessels in such unprecedented circumstances. We will always use technology in a positive, proactive, and common-sense way. Honestly, I am surprised that more Flag States are not doing the same already, but I am sure most will soon follow. We have to embrace new ways of doing business, yet maintaining safety.”

Link to the Liberian Registry’s official [COVID ADVISORY PAGE](#)

- The Liberian Registry has a long-established track record of combining the highest standards of safety for vessels and crews with the highest levels of responsive and innovative service to owners. Moreover, it has a well-deserved reputation for supporting international legislation designed to maintain and improve the safety and effectiveness of the shipping industry and protection of the marine environment. [www.liscr.com](http://www.liscr.com)

**Issued by:**

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