

Circular 140 / 2016

To: Vessel Owners, Managers, Masters, Officers, Deputy Registrars and other Interested Parties

Subject: Cancellation of Belize Certificates of Competencies and Cook Islands Endorsements

Date 09 December 2016

Summary

Maritime Cook Islands draws your attention to IMMARBE Seafarers Department Circular SDC-16/04 (attached below) regarding Belize Certificates of Competence (CoC) and Validity of CoC's after December 31, 2016.

Per the attached moratorium, Maritime Cook Islands will cancel all Endorsement certificates issued on Belize CoC's which are valid past 31st of December 2016. Please be advised that email advice will be sent to confirm the details of the certificates cancelled to the respective Vessel Owners/Managers, Deputy Registrars and if possible, the Seafarer referred to.

Furthermore, Maritime Cook Islands will not accept Belize CoC for Cook Islands Endorsement into 2017, until further advice from IMMARBE.

MCI Verification Portal

Cook Islands Endorsements Certificates can be verified via the Maritime Cook Islands website at the following link: [Cook Islands Endorsements Verification Portal](#)

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact the STCW Certification Manager, Eleanor Goodwin email stcw@maritimecookislands.com



Seafarers Department Circular **SDC-16/04**

IMMARBE

International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize

Moratorium on Belize Certificates of Competence and Validity of COCs After December 31, 2016

TO: Holders of BELIZE COCs, Maritime Administrations, Port States/MOU's, Deputy Registrars, Ship Owners, Ship Operators and All other Concerned Parties.

REFERENCE: Seafarers Department Notice – Moratorium on the Issuance of Certificates of Competence;

ISSUANCE DATE: 30TH November, 2016 **REVISION NO. (mm/dd/yy):** N/A

MSN SUPERSEDED: SDC-15-10 –Verification of Belize Issued; SDC-15-07-Requirement for Revalidating of COCs; SDC-15-06-Requirement for Updating Training; SDC-14-04 Guidelines Concerning the Implementation of the Manila Amendments; SDC-14-02 – Manila Amendments; MSN-0040 New Fees and New Requirements for COCs

PAGES: 2

I. PURPOSE

This Circular is intended to draw your attention on the current state of affairs in regards to the indefinite moratorium which has been placed on the issuance of Belize Certificates of Competence (CoCs) and the validity of those CoCs issued prior to the publication of the moratorium.

Bearing in mind that the Manila Amendments of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping of Seafarers (STCW) require absolute commitment by each and every STCW Party, by providing training/instruction and assessment of seafarers.

Taking into consideration that the International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE) has long sought to maintain a reputation as a Registry of excellence.

Considering the lack of adequate control for the issuance of certificates of competence issued by seafarer agents under the previous administration and in view of the absence of procedures for the issuance of CoCs **in accordance with provisions of the STCW Convention as amended by the 2010 Manila Amendments**

The Seafarers Department being in charge of giving full force to the provisions of the STCW convention and taking into consideration all of the above mentioned, has determined as an urgent solution, that all IMMARBE Certificates of Competence for Deck and Engine Officers and ratings alike issued with an expiration date beyond 1st January 2017 will not be considered valid after 31st December 2016.

We recognise that there could be a vast number of CoCs issued by the previous administration, but we beseech the consideration of all parties concerned as this rigorous action will avoid detentions and delays in ship operations consequently preventing mass financial losses.

2. INFORMATION

For any questions, information or queries on the above, please contact IMMARBE Head Office:

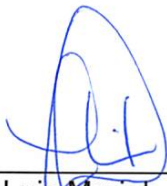
INTERNATIONAL MERCHANT MARINE REGISTRY OF BELIZE

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This Circular was issued in Belize City, Belize on 30TH November, 2016.



Capt. Luis Muriel
Seafarers Manager
IMMARBE



Annette Garel (Mrs.)
Senior Deputy Registrar
IMMARBE