

Circular 90 / 2014

To: Vessel Owners, Managers, Masters, Deputy Registrars, Surveyors and Other Interested Parties

Subject: Commercial vessels entering MLC member ports

Date: 2 September 2014

Summary

Maritime Cook Islands reminds owners and operators that the MLC applies to all ships engaged in commercial activities. International certification is required for all ships of 500GT and over, making international voyages. Vessels under 500GT are required to be in compliance and have on board copies of the MLC surveys. Maritime Cook Islands strongly advises all CI flagged vessels operating commercially and entering ports of member states to be MLC certified.

On 12 August 2013 the ILO adopted a Resolution requesting port States to allow ships to continue to operate without a Maritime Labour Certificate (and Declaration of Maritime Labour Compliance) during a period of one year after 20 August 2013. ILO invited the member States to take a pragmatic approach in this respect during the first year. The first year has come to an end.

Ships from non-ratifying States, i.e. Cook Islands should not receive any more favourable treatment than ships from States that have ratified the Convention. Under these circumstances, the ship will receive a more detailed inspection to ensure compliance with the MLC.

Member states are entitled to inspect vessels for MLC compliance 12 months after the date they ratified the convention. Below are member states in which the MLC is in force

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Antigua and Barbuda | Hungary | Poland |
| Australia | Japan | Russian Federation |
| Bahamas | Kiribati | Saint Kitts and Nevis |
| Barbados | Latvia | Saint Vincent and the Grenadines |
| Belgium | Liberia | Serbia |
| Benin | Lithuania | Singapore |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Luxembourg | South Africa |
| Bulgaria | Malaysia | Spain |
| Canada | Malta | Sweden |
| Croatia | Marshall Islands | Switzerland |
| Cyprus | Morocco | Togo |
| Denmark | Netherlands | Tuvalu |
| Finland | Nigeria | United Kingdom |
| France | Norway | Viet Nam |
| Germany | Palau | |
| Ghana | Panama | |
| Greece | Philippines | |

Maritime Cook Islands reminds parties of all vessels to which this circular applies to take note and ensure that their CI flagged vessels have been suitably surveyed and if necessary certified.

For further information or clarification please contact the Registrar of Ships, a Deputy Registrar or Fleet Manager at Maritime Cook Islands; alternatively you may contact Maritime Cook Islands Head Office at +682 23848 Phone, +682 23846 Fax, fleet@maritimecookislands.com

Please ensure this has been forwarded to interested parties.