1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Seafarer Department Circular is to provide Ship Owners, ISM Operators, Deputy Registrars, General Safety Inspectors, Recognized Organizations and Other Parties with our requirements for Certificate of Proficiency (CoP) for Ratings serving onboard Belize Flagged Vessels.

As previously informed by our Seafarers Department Circular SDC-09/01, which made references to International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE) requirements for endorsements to be issued to Ratings (Deck and Engine) on Belize Flagged vessels.

2. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Circular, ratings are defined as a member of the ship's crew other than the Master, an officer or an engineer, including but not limited to: Able Seafarer Deck (AS(D)), Able Seafarer Engine (AS(E)), Ratings forming part of a navigational watch (RW(D)), Ratings forming part of an engineering watch (RW(E)), Other Deck Ratings (OR(D)), Other Engine Ratings (OR(E)), Electro-Technical Rating, Boatswain, Chief Cook, Cook, Steward, Mess Man, Oilers, Motorman, Wipers, Fitters, Welders, General Purpose Seaman, Ordinary Seaman, Deck & Engine Cadets, Chief Electricians, Electric-Carpenters, Fireman, Pumpman, and Reeferman.
3. **FLAG ENDORSEMENT**

ISM Operators are no longer required to apply for IMMARBE endorsement attesting to the recognition of a Certificate of Proficiency (CoP) for Ratings (Deck and Engine); nevertheless, they are entitled to verify and confirm that Ratings shall hold a valid Certificate of Proficiency (CoP) issued by, or on behalf of, another Administration (Member Party of STCW Convention “IMO White List Countries”) in accordance with STCW Convention and code.

4. **IMPLEMENTATION**

The above shall take effect from 01 September 2016. Except in cases where Certificate of Proficiency CoP are currently being processed, the above shall take effect subsequent to the issuance of the endorsement of that Certificate of Proficiency CoP.

Capt. Muriel  
Seafarer Manager

Capt. Demetrio Cortes  
Technical Director of IMMARBE