

Palau International Ship Registry



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MARINE NOTICE 213.1

To: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS AND AUTHORIZED CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES

Subject: "MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR SEAFARERS TO WORK ON A SHIP"

Reference:

- Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), 2006, TITLE 1;
- Republic of Palau Admiralty and Maritime, Title 7/Chapter 8;
- Republic of Palau Maritime Regulations / 26-june-2012.

Purpose:

This notice sets forth the Administration's minimum requirements for seafarers to work on a ship under the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), 2006, having due regard to protection of human rights, safety of life, ship and cargo and protection of the environment.

Applicability:

This notice applies to any person who is employed or engaged or works in any capacity on board ships to which MLC, 2006 applies. These requirements are supplemental to DMLC-I, the Republic of Palau Admiralty and Maritime, Title 7, and the Republic of Palau Maritime Regulations / 26-june-2012.

This Marine Notice has the force and effect of a Regulation (*Republic of Palau Maritime Regulations / 26-june-2012, Reg. 1.5*)

Requirements:

1. Minimum age:

Persons below the minimum age of 16 years shall not be employed or engaged or work on a Palau flagged ship.

This Administration has determined that the work performed under a recognized training program is not detrimental to their health and well-being.



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Night is defined as a period of at least nine (9) consecutive hours starting no later than midnight and ending no earlier than a.m. When seafarers under the age of 18 years are engaged at night, the beginning and end of this period shall be determined by the master of the ship.

- ✓ Seafarers under the age of 18 years shall not work at night, except: when the seafarer is engaged in a training program established by the shipowner and accepted by this Administration;
- ✓ Seafarer under the age of 18 years shall not be engaged or employed in any hazardous work, which is likely to jeopardize their health and safety

2. Medical Certificate

2.1 All seafarer prior to beginning of work on a ship, shall hold a valid medical certificate issued by a duly qualified medical practitioner licensed at the place of examination and/or recognized by the competent authority, attesting that they are medically fit to perform their duties at sea.

2.2 The Medical certificates issued in accordance with the requirements of STCW 1978, as amended are accepted.

2.3 Medical certificates shall state in particular that a seafarer concerned:

- ✓ has satisfactory hearing and sight, as well as color vision where the nature of the work to be performed requires it;
- ✓ is medically fit to perform duties he/she is to carry out; and
- ✓ is not suffering from any medical condition that is likely to be aggravated by service at sea or to render the seafarer unfit for such service or to endanger the health of other persons on board.

All medical certificates shall be issued in English for ships engaged in international voyages and shall be valid for a maximum period of two years.

2.4 In urgent cases, the Administration may issue a dispensation to a seafarer joining a ship, to work without a valid medical certificate until the next port of call where a medical certificate can be obtained provided that:

- ✓ such a dispensation shall not exceed three months; and
- ✓ The seafarer concerned is in possession of a medical certificate that has expired within the last ninety days.



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2.5 If the period of validity of a medical certificate expires during a voyage, the certificate shall remain in force until the next port of call where the seafarer can obtain a medical certificate from a qualified medical practitioner, provided that the period shall not exceed three months.

3. Training and qualifications of seafarers

All Seafarers, including those in positions listed in the minimum safe manning certificate shall be trained and certified as competent, in accordance with STCW 1978, as amended. They shall possess appropriate and valid either a Palauan Certificate of Competency, or a Palauan Certificate of Endorsement attesting the recognition of such issued by another State, and any additional special qualifications equivalent to the duties they are required to undertake on the ship.

3.1 Every seafarer serving on board a Palauan registered ship, shall be required to possess a "Seafarers Identification and Record Book" (SIRB)

3.2 Seafarers shall not work on a ship unless they are trained or certified as competent or otherwise qualified to perform their duties.

3.3 Seafarers shall not be permitted to work on a ship unless they have successfully completed basic training for personal safety on board a ship, such as that defined in Section A-VI/1 of the STCW Code.

4. Recruitment and placement of seafarers

4.1 If seafarers are employed directly by the ship-owner, that is without any mediation from a Seafarer's Recruitment and Placement Services (SRPS), then this situation prima facie does not fall within the scope of the concerned Convention's Regulation - Standard and should be referred relatively by the shipowner in Part II of the Declaration of Maritime Labour Compliance. As such should be considered the case where a seafarer is employed by a recruitment department operated by the ship-owner.

4.2 Where a ship-owner uses a private SRPS, he/she must take steps to ensure that this service is licensed or certified or regulated in accordance with the requirements under Regulation 1.4. as follows:

- ✓ Any SRPS provider located in a country which has ratified the Convention, which is used by a ship-owner to supply seafarers to a Palauan registered ship, such a SRPS shall operate only in



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conformity with a standardized system of licensing or certification or other form of regulation, issued by the competent authority in that country.

- ✓ SRPS located in a country or territory that is not party to MLC, 2006, shall be audited and certified by the Administration in order to provide SRPS services to a ship-owner operating a Palauan flagged vessel. (Ref: Marine Circular 138.1)
- ✓ A private SRPS provider shall not charge seafarers any fee for recruitment or placement or for providing employment to them, other than the cost of the seafarer obtaining a national statutory medical certificate, the national seafarer's book and a passport. The cost of obtaining any visas for the purpose of employment on board shall be borne by the ship-owner.

The present supersedes any related marine notice and marine circular issued by Palau International Ship Registry on a date prior to its official publication.

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