



Kiribati Ship Registry

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MARINE CIRCULAR No. 36/2017

13 January 2017

TO : Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Charterers, Ship Masters, Classification Societies, Port State Control Authorities and the Shipping Community

SUBJECT : Implementation of STCW 2010 Amendments

PURPOSE

This Circular is to notify the shipping community on the actions to be taken where not all seafarers are certificated according to the requirements of STCW 2010 Amendments as from 1 January 2017.

APPLICATION

This Circular is applicable to all seafarers serving on board Kiribati vessels.

CONTENT

- 1) The IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC), at its 97th session held from 21 to 25 November 2016, expressed concern about the implementation of the STCW 2010 Amendments in view of the ending, on 1 January 2017, of the transitional provisions laid down in the STCW Convention, Regulation I/15.
- 2) It has been noted that a large number of Certificates of Competency (COC) needed to be issued by Parties confirming that their seafarers complied with the provisions of the STCW 2010 Amendments, and the provisions of Regulation I/10 required Administrations to issue Certificate of Endorsements (COE) to masters, officers and radio personnel for service on their ships.
- 3) The MSC was concerned that at the end of the transitional period, seafarers in some States were reportedly unable to obtain COC and/or the necessary COE required by Regulation I/10 meeting the requirements of the STCW 2010 Amendments.
- 4) Therefore, the MSC urged all concerned, including certificate-issuing Parties and Administrations, to do their utmost to ensure that seafarers were issued with the appropriate COC and necessary COE.

5) The MSC recognized that some seafarers on board ships may not yet hold their COC or COE meeting the STCW 2010 Amendments and urged Port State Control Authorities to take the above factors into consideration when taking action under the control procedures in Article X and Regulation I/4 of the STCW Convention. The MSC agreed that, in cases where a seafarer's documentation complied with the requirements in force immediately prior 1 January 2017, but was not in accordance with the requirements of the STCW 2010 Amendments, Port State Control Authorities, until 1 July 2017, were recommended to take a reasonable and practical approach during inspections and to notify the ships, seafarers and Administrations concerned accordingly.

6) The MSC also recommended that Administrations should inform Recognized Organizations issuing ISM Code certification under SOLAS 74 that, until 1 July 2017, if a seafarer's documentation was not in accordance with the STCW 2010 Amendments, it would be sufficient to inform the Administration when assessing compliance with the provisions of the ISM Code.

7) Please be guided accordingly on the contents of this circular to all concerned, especially Port State Control Authorities and Recognized Organizations.

8) Please do not hesitate to contact the Kiribati Administration for any assistance or clarification on the above notification.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Registrar
Kiribati Ship Registry