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**HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF MARITIME AFFAIRS AND
INSULAR POLICY
HELLENIC COAST GUARD HEADQUARTERS
BRANCH B' (MARITIME AFFAIRS) – C' (SHIP INSPECTION)
DIRECTORATE FOR MARITIME LABOR -
DIRECTORATE FOR THE MONITORING OF
SHIP AND PORT FACILITY SECURITY MANAGEMENT**

ADA: 753Z4653ΠΩ-ΗΛΖ

Piraeus, January 26, 2017

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SUBJECT: Amendment – Supplement to a Circular Letter relating to the implementation of requirements of the Maritime Labor Convention 2006 (MLC 2006) of the International Labor Organization – Amendments 2014”

REF: Circular Letter No.3257.1.2/01/2013/10-09-2013 (MLC 2006/01)

1. As is well-known, on 11 April 2014, during the first meeting of the Special Tripartite Committee (STC) that was established by the Governing Body of the International Labor Organization under Article XIII of the Maritime Labor Convention 2006 (MLC 2006), where said Convention has been ratified by Greece by virtue of L.4078/2012 (A' 179) for the purpose of ensuring its observance while being constantly revised, Amendments to the Code of the MLC 2006 were adopted (Standards and Guidelines) and in particular amendments to the Standards and Guidelines relating to the implementation of Regulation 2.5 - “Repatriation” and Regulation 4.2 - “Shipowners’ Liability” with the aim to deal in a more efficient manner with cases of abandonment of seafarers and compensation for claims for death or personal injury (long-term disability). These amendments were approved at the 103th session of the International Labor Conference which took place on June 2014. Moreover, the above-mentioned Committee adopted a Resolution on transitional measures relating to the entry into force of the amendments to the Maritime Labor Convention 2006, concerning financial security requirements in respect of abandonment of seafarers and shipowners’ liability. In accordance with the said Resolution which was adopted by Greece, the Amendments 2014 to the Maritime Labor Convention 2016 do not intend to affect the validity of Maritime Labor Certificates or declarations of maritime labor compliance already issued at the time when the amendments enter into force. Furthermore, the above Resolution recognizes the need for a transitional period to issue or renew Maritime Labor Certificates in accordance with the requirements of the Convention, as amended, and in addition it requests

Members to acknowledge that entry into force of the amendments should not in any way serve to invalidate Maritime Labor Certificates or declarations of maritime labor compliance that have been duly issued previously in accordance with the Convention and which are still in effect.

2. It is noted that Maritime Labor Certificates or declarations of maritime labor compliance are issued so as to comply with the requirements of the Convention as amended, no later than the date of the first renewal inspection following entry into force of the amendments.
3. Taking due account of the foregoing and in furtherance of the smooth and gradual issue / replacement of Part I of the Declarations of Maritime Labor Compliance and Maritime Labor Certificates for ships falling within the scope of Article 31 of the Regulation on the implementation of requirements set out in Maritime Labor Convention 2006 (Joint ministerial Decision No. 3522/2.8.2013, B' 1671), following Amendments 2014, the Circular Letter referred to here above is amended – supplemented as follows:

- a) In Annex III, after item 14 under the heading *Declaration of Maritime Labor Compliance – Part I*, the following are added:

"15. *Financial security for repatriation (Regulation 2.5)*

National Regulation, Article 10a

A financial security system is in place on ships that provides direct access, sufficient coverage and expedited financial assistance to any abandoned seafarer as referred to in the Convention (Amendments 2014). Certificate or other documentary evidence of financial security issued by the financial security provider shall be carried on board and contain the information required by the Convention (Amendments 2014).

16. *Financial security relating to shipowners' liability (Regulation 4.2)*

National Regulation, Article 28

Requirements of the system of financial security to assure compensation in the event of the death or long-term disability of seafarers due to an occupational injury, illness or hazard, as referred to in the Convention (Amendments 2014). Certificate or other documentary evidence of financial security issued by the financial security provider shall be carried on board and contain the information required by the Convention (Amendments 2014).".

- b) In Annex III, under the heading *Declarations of Maritime Labor Compliance – Part I*, the phrase "Ministry of Shipping, Maritime Affairs

and the Aegean” is replaced by the phrase “Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy”.

4. The D.I.D.EP. (Directorate for e-Governance and Communications) whereto this document is forwarded, shall ensure that this document is posted on the dedicated site of the official website of the Hellenic Coast Guard for the Maritime Labor Convention 2006.
5. Shipowners Associations and Seafarers' Unions are requested to take due note of the above and advise their members accordingly.

THE MINISTER
Panagiotis KOUROUMBLIS

[seal of the Hellenic Republic - Hellenic Coast Guard Headquarters]

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

[signed]

THE HEAD OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT

Vasiliki NARPETA