

Subject: Provisional Maritime Labor Certificate (MLC) for Panamanian flagged ships.

## 1. Applicability.

The provisions of this Technical Notice are applicable to Panamanian flagged ships falling under the provisions of the MLC, 2006.

# 2. Background.

- .1 Through MMC-269-MLC, 2006. Certification Process, paragraphs 17 and 22, the Panama Marine Authority has issued new instructions relating to:
  - .1 The issuance of the provisional MLC certificate, upon satisfactory completion of the initial inspection; and
  - .2 The extension of the validity of the existing full-term MLC certificate, upon satisfactory completion of the renewal inspection.
- .2 In accordance with MMC-269, paragraph 17: If at the time of carrying out the initial inspection required in Standard A5.1.3.1 of the MLC, it is not possible for the RO to immediately produce the new MLC certificate on board the ship, may be issued a Provisional MLC Certificate and placed on board. The validity of this provisional certificate should not exceed five (5) months. The five months of validity of the provisional certificate shall be counted from the date of completion of the initial inspection and included within the five years period of validity of the Maritime Labour Certificate. This certificate must be identified with the nomenclature "Provisional Certificate".
- .3 In accordance with MMC-269, paragraph 22: The RO may extend the validity of the Maritime Labor Certificate for a period not exceeding five months after the expiry date of the existing certificate, provided that the renewal inspection has been carried out according to standard A5.1.3.4 of the MLC. The format to be followed by the RO's will be the same as that found in the Appendix A5–II of the Convention and will be added to the maritime labor certificate and be available to the competent authorities.
- .4 The new instructions specified above, should be applied from **01 January 2021**.

### 3. Relevant documentation.

- .1 PMA MMC-269-MLC, 2006. Certification Process (December 2020).
- .2 ICS Class Technical Instructive PO02-TI09- Statutory Certification for MLC, 2006.

### 4. Provisions for Panamanian flagged ships.

- .1 The well-known short-term MLC certificate has been renamed. From now, it will be called "provisional MLC certificate".
- .2 The issuance of the provisional MLC certificate, upon satisfactory completion of the initial inspection, is allowed.
- .3 The issuance of the provisional MLC certificate, upon satisfactory completion of the renewal inspection, is not allowed.
- .4 Upon satisfactory completion of the initial inspection, a provisional MLC certificate shall be issued in order to permit the operation of the ship while the full-term MLC certificate is prepared. The provisional MLC certificate shall be issued valid for five (5) months counted from the completion date of the initial inspection.



.5 Upon satisfactory completion of the renewal inspection, prior to the expiry date of the existing full-term MLC certificate, the inspector should extend the validity of the full-term MLC certificate for a further period not exceeding five (5) months counted from the expiry date of the existing MLC, and endorse the MLC accordingly (Standard A5.1.3, paragraph 4). The issuance of a provisional MLC certificate is not allowed.

## 5. Provisions for non-Panamanian flagged ships.

- .1 The well-known short-term MLC certificate remain applicable.
- .2 Upon satisfactory completion of the initial/renewal inspection, a short-term MLC certificate shall be issued in order to permit the operation of the ship while the full-term MLC certificate is prepared. The short-term MLC certificate shall be issued valid for five (5) months counted from the completion date of the initial/renewal inspection.
- .3 Upon satisfactory completion of the renewal inspection, prior to the expiry date of the existing full-term MLC certificate, and in those cases where a new certificate cannot immediately to be issued and made available on board the ship, the inspector may extend the validity of the full-term MLC certificate for a further period not exceeding five (5) months counted from the expiry date of the existing MLC, and endorse the MLC accordingly (Standard A5.1.3, paragraph 4).

# 6. Updated Forms.

.1 MLC-PV (2020-12) for Panamanian flagged ships only.

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