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Circular Letter No.4249
2 April 2020

To: All IMO Members
Intergovernmental organizations
Non-governmental organizations in consultative status

Subject: **Communications from the Governments of:**
i **the Republic of Cuba; and**
ii **the State of Qatar**

The Governments of the Republic of Cuba and the State of Qatar have sent the attached communications, dated 30 March and 1 April 2020 respectively, with the request that they are circulated by the Organization.



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Marítima

ADMINISTRACION MARITIMA DE CUBA
DIRECCIÓN DE SEGURIDAD MARITIMA

Avenida Independencia entre Tulipán y Lombillo, Nuevo Vedado,
Plaza de la Revolución, La Habana, Cuba, C/P 10600. Teléfonos: (537) 881 2191 - 881 2195.
Correo electrónico: pozo.sm@amc.transnet.cu

La Habana, March, 30 Th, 2020

HIS EXCELLENCY
MR. KITAK LIM,
SECRETARY GENERAL
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION
4, Albert Embankment
London SE1 7SR
United Kingdom

Re: Republic of Cuba - Guidelines for adoption of extraordinary measures of the seafarer's certificates of competency or certificates of proficiency issued by Cuba Maritime Administration resulting from the COV / D-19 pandemic.

Excellency,

In relation to the world situation of the incidence and spread of COVID-19, and what is expressed in Circular Letter No. 4204 / Add 5 and Circular No. 4224, both from the Secretary General of the International Maritime Organization, the Cuban Maritime Administration considers the following guidelines for the adoption of extraordinary measures of certificates of competence of seafarers or certificates of sufficiency issued by the Cuban Maritime Administration:

Extension of validity of seafarers' documents beyond their expiration date.

• Of the Certificates of Competence and Certificates of Proficiency

The Cuban Maritime Administration has decided that the validity of the Certificates of Competence (CoC) and the Certificates of Proficiency (CaP) of Cuban crew members on board the vessels that which will expire before June 15, 2020 are granted extended validity up to 3 (three) months.

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ADMINISTRACION MARITIMA DE CUBA
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• **Medical certificates.**

Considering this situation ç as a force majeure, with respect to Cuban medical certificates, the Cuban Maritime Administration has decided to follow the provisions for urgent cases allowed by Regulation 1/9 of the STCW Convention 1978 as amended and Regulation 1.2. Of the MLC Convention 2006 amended.

• **Endorsements.**

The seafarer will be granted a temporary endorsement valid for a period of up to 3 (three) months.

The seafarers individually will not be required to submit an application.



Best regard

ENG. ENRIQUE POZO CARDOZA

SAFETY MARITIME DIRECTORE.

CUBAN MARITIME ADMINISTRATION.MITRANS

La Habana, 19 de marzo de 2020

"Año 62 de la Revolución".

DSM //7 /2020

ISMAEL COBOS DELGADO
HEAD, MARITIME TRAINING AND HUMAN ELEMENT
MARITIME SAFETY DIVISION

MEDIDAS IMPLEMENTADAS POR LA REPUBLICA DE CUBA RELACIONADAS CON EL STCW EN VIRTUD DE LOS ACONTECIMIENTOS OCURRIDOS POR LA PANDEMIA "COVID-19.

En relación con la situación mundial de la incidencia y propagación del COVID-19, y lo expresado en la Carta Circular No 4204/Add 5 y la Circular No 4224, ambas del Secretario General de la Organización Marítima Internacional, la Administración Marítima de Cuba considera las siguientes pautas para la adopción de medidas extraordinarias de los certificados de competencia de la gente de mar o certificados de suficiencias emitidos por la Administración Marítima de Cuba:

Extensión de la validez de los documentos de la gente de mar más allá de su fecha de vencimiento.

- **De los Certificados de Competencia y Certificados de Suficiencia**

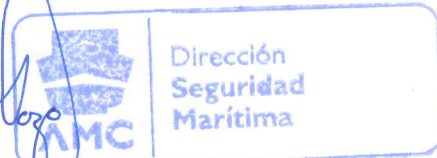
La Administración Marítima de Cuba ha decidido que la validez de los Certificados de Competencia (CoC) y los Certificados de Suficiencias (CoP) de los tripulantes cubanos a bordo de los buques que expirarán antes del 15 de junio de 2020 tiene una validez general extendida de hasta 3 (tres) meses.

- **Certificados médicos.**

Teniendo en cuenta esta situación como una fuerza mayor, con respecto a los certificados médicos cubanos, la Administración Marítima de Cuba ha decidido seguir las disposiciones para casos urgentes permitidas por el Reglamento I / 9 del Convenio STCW 1978 enmendado y el Reglamento 1.2. del Convenio MLC 2006 enmendado.

- **Refrendos.**

El marino recibirá un refrendo temporal válido por un período de hasta 3 (tres) meses. No se requerirá que la gente de mar de forma individual presente una solicitud.



ING. ENRIQUE POZO CARDOZA
DIRECTOR DE SEGURIDAD MARÍTIMA

Cc: MOU Caribe, Acuerdo Viña del Mar

omc.



Ref: 2020/07/أب
Date: 1/April/2020

H.E Mr. Kitack Lim,
Secretary General,
International Maritime Organization,
4 Albert Embankment,
London, SE1 7SR
United Kingdom

**Subject: Measures taken to mitigate effects of the Coronavirus (COVID-19)
outbreak on seafarers' employment**

Dear Excellency,

The Ministry of Transport and Communications of State of Qatar presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the International Maritime Organization and advises that, Pursuant to the International Maritime Organization Circular No. 4204/Add.5, issued on March 17, 2020 regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the guidance relating to the certification of Seafarers.

The Maritime Transport Affairs Sector of the Ministry of transport & Communications in the State of Qatar, to minimize the risk to the health of seafarers as well as the general public, has decided in this prevailing circumstance and the conditions caused by the spread of the COVID-19, to extend the validity of the previously issued **Endorsements Attesting the Recognition of a certificate** under the provisions of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended, for a period of three (3) months from the expiry date that appears on the Endorsement.

To this end, I would like to request the Secretariat of the International Maritime Organization to kindly disseminate the attached information among the member states.

Yours sincerely,

Capt. Hilal Saad Al Naimi
Director of Marine Regulation Department





Ref: 2020/106/أب
Date: 30/3/2020

To: ALL Ship owners,
Shipping Companies,
Port/Flag
State Control,
Shipping Agencies

**Subject: Contingency plans to mitigate disruption to delivered services
in the event of a COVID-19 pandemic**

The Maritime Transport Affairs Sector of the Ministry of Transport & Communications in the State of Qatar, to minimize the risk to the health of seafarers as well as the public, has decided in this prevailing circumstance and the conditions caused by the spread of the COVID-19, the following:

1. The existing **Endorsements Attesting the Recognition of a certificate** under the provisions of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended, carried by seafarers working onboard Qatari Flag ships, in case of expiry to be considered valid for a period of three (3) months from the expiry date that appears on the Endorsement.
2. The existing Minimum Safe Manning Certificates, in case of expiry to be considered valid for a period of three (3) months from the expiry date that appears on the certificate itself.
3. Confirmed Receipt of application (CRA) will be issued instead of new Endorsements Attesting the Recognition of a certificate under STCW Convention. by submitting the request application as usual to the email address **Tareq.AlJufairi@motc.gov.qa & Abdallah.Alqahtani@motc.gov.qa**

For any further quires regarding the above, contact through this email address:

Maritimetransport@motc.gov.qa

Yours sincerely,

Capt. Hilal Saad Al Naimi
Director of Marine Regulation Department

