



NAURU

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

EXTENSION OF SERVICE PERIOD FOR SEAFARERS AND CERTIFICATES OF ENDORSEMENT IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 (NMA_C37.2020.Rev.2)

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this circular is to address the heightened immigration control measures and travel restrictions set in place by an increasing number of countries which has resulted in ship owners experiencing difficulties arranging change of crew when their Seafarers' Employment Agreements (SEA) expire. Similarly, seafarers holding Nauru Certificates of Endorsement (COE) risk having their COEs expire as they are unable to revalidate their national STCW COC/COP and medical certificate.

REFERENCE:

- a) Nauru Shipping Circular NMA C36 – Coronavirus (COVID-19)
- b) Maritime Labour Convention 2006, as amended

DEFINITIONS:

The following abbreviations / terms stand for:

- "SEA" – Seafarers' Employment Agreement
- "Administration" – Nauru Maritime Administration

APPLICATION:

This circular applies to all seafarers serving on board Nauru registered vessels.



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CONTENTS:

1) Extension of SEA

- a) International efforts to stem the spread of COVID-19 has led to an increasing number of countries and their port authorities placing immigration restrictions which may result in difficulties for ship owners to arrange change of crew when the SEAs of the crew expire.
- b) To address the above circumstances, the Administration wishes to advise all port authorities that a seafarer's service period may be extended on condition that any such extension is agreed by the seafarer voluntarily in writing and is properly set out in the SEA.

2) Extension of COE

- a) A COE that expires due to a seafarer being unable to revalidate his/her COC, COP and/or medical certificate due to travel restrictions caused by COVID-19 may apply to seafarer@naurumaritime.com to have the COE extended on condition that the National Authority issuing the STCW COC/COP has issued an official notice or letter of extension.
- b) If an official notice or letter of extension by the National Authority cannot be produced, then the Administration may, on a case-to-case basis, issue a short term dispensation letter to allow the seafarer to continue to sail in his/her present capacity until the vessel is able to call at the first port where the seafarer can be replaced or repatriated. Please contact tech@naurumaritime.com to apply for a dispensation if required.

For further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the Administration at: flag@naurumaritime.com.