



Marine Consultants,
Surveys & Naval Register

CIRCULAR MCO – 009-2024

December 05th, 2024

FROM	MCO HEAD OFFICE – TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT
TO	SURVEYORS/ MANAGERMENTS/ OWNERS/ OPERATORS
SUBJECT	RO RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE 2022 AMENDMENTS TO THE MLC, 2006 ENTER INTO FORCE ON 23 DECEMBER 2024.

Dear all,

By this means we would like to draw your attention to **inform you that 2022 amendments to the MLC, 2006 enter into force on 23 December 2024.**

At the fourth meeting of the Special Tripartite Committee established by the Governing Body in accordance with Article XIII of the MLC, 2006, amendments to MLC 2006 related to use of regulated private recruitment and placement services; on-board recreational facilities; food and catering; health and safety and accident prevention; and on-board medical care were adopted in May 2022. The amendments were approved at the 110th session of the International Labour Conference held in June 2022.

The 2022 amendments will ensure that:

Recruitment and placement

- Seafarers are informed, prior to or in the process of engagement, of their rights under the system of financial protection to be established by private recruitment and placement agencies to compensate seafarers for monetary losses.

Repatriation

- Member States facilitate the prompt repatriation of abandoned seafarers and cooperate to ensure that seafarers engaged to replace seafarers who have been abandoned in their territory, or on a ship flying their flag, shall be accorded their rights and entitlements under the MLC, 2006.

Accommodation and recreational facilities/Access to shore-based welfare facilities

- Seafarers are provided with appropriate social connectivity on board;
- Shipowners, so far as is reasonably practicable, provide seafarers on board their ships with internet access with charges, if any, being reasonable in amount. Port States do the same for seafarers on board ships in their ports and at their associated anchorages.

Food and catering

- Good quality drinking water is available free of charge for seafarers;
- Meals provided are balanced;
- Supplies of food and drinking water are inspected in relation to their quantity, quality, nutritional value, quality and variety.

Medical care on board ship and ashore

- Seafarers are promptly disembarked when they are in need of immediate medical care and are given access to medical facilities ashore in cases of, among others, any serious injury or disease, any injury involving broken bones, severe bleeding, broken or inflamed teeth or severe burns; severe pain which cannot be managed on board ship and suicide risk.
- Member States facilitate the repatriation by the shipowner of the body or ashes of seafarers who have died on board.

Health and safety protection and accident prevention

- Seafarers have appropriately sized personal protective equipment, in particular to suit the increasing number of women seafarers;
- All deaths of seafarers are recorded and reported annually to the ILO and the relevant data is published.

Financial security

- The documentary evidence of financial security includes the name of the registered owner if different from the shipowner.

MCO Compliance

- MCO surveyors shall review compliance with these amendments, at the time of carrying out the interim, initial, intermediate or renewal audits, as of its entry into force.
- Inspection forms and checklists were updated according to:
 - The Panama Maritime Authority issued the Merchant Marine Notice MMN-06/2024 where is established that amendments do not modify:
 - DMLC Part I and II
 - General areas subject to detailed inspection by the PSC officers
 - ASI form related to the MLC
 - Working and living conditions of seafarers that must be inspected and approved before certifying a ship.

Should you require any further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best regards,



Eng. Karen Sánchez
Technical Department
MACOSNAR Corporation