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STCW.2/Circ.68
10 November 2016

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION
AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS (STCW), 1978, AS AMENDED**

Communication received from the Government of New Zealand

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to transmit the information received from the Government of New Zealand regarding transitional arrangements for STCW certificates issued by New Zealand that take into account the requirements of the 2010 Manila amendments, which is attached in the annex.

The Secretary-General would be grateful if steps could be taken to bring this information to the attention of the appropriate authorities.

ANNEX



26 OCT 2016

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Level 11, 1 Grey Street, PO Box 25620, Wellington 6146
New Zealand

Secretary general
IMO
4 Albert Embankment,
London,
SE1 7SR
UK

Our ref: IMO TEN/OCT2016
In-confidence

Dear Sir

New Zealand STCW Licences– After 01 Jan 2017

New Zealand would like to inform the International Maritime Organization of the transitional arrangements for STCW certificates issued by New Zealand that take into account the requirements of the 2010 Manila amendments.

Some certificates issued by New Zealand that have been issued in accordance with the provisions of the convention before 1st January 2017 are stated to be STCW 95 certificates. These certificates remain valid (as per paragraph .9 from STCW.7/Circ.17 & STCW.7/Circ.16) providing the holder has valid appropriate ancillary certificates to support the licence. Noting STCW Regulation I/15.

New Zealand's new certificates that replace our former certificates which although they had a reference to "STCW 1978 as amended in 1995" are considered valid and comply with STCW 1978 as amended until the expiry date stated on the certificate.

The issuance of such certificates ceased following the New Zealand Review of all seafarer qualification leading to a new seafarer framework and national legislation which came into force in 2014. Such certificates will / may remain in circulation until 2019.

Noting STCW.7/Circ.17 24 May 2011

.2 for seafarers holding certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to 1 January 2012 who have met the requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments, the validity of any revalidated certificate can extend beyond 1 January 2017

.9 The Committee recommended that for seafarers' certificates that have expiry dates beyond 1 January 2017, port State control authorities should accept the certificate issued as prima facie evidence that the seafarer had met the standard of competence required by the 2010 Manila Amendments in accordance with the control provisions of article X and regulation I/4.

Also Noting STCW.7/Circ.16

.1 for seafarers holding certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to 1 January 2012 and who have not met the requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments, the validity of any revalidated certificate should not extend beyond 1 January 2017;

.2 for seafarers holding certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to 1 January 2012 who have met the requirements of the 2010 Manila Amendments, the validity of any revalidated certificate can extend beyond 1 January 2017

New Zealand would like to take this opportunity also to state that all New Zealand subsequent Certificates are issued as STCW 78 as amended and are 2010 compliant and would not raise the above issue.

Yours sincerely



Keith Manch

Director

Maritime New Zealand