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16 October 2018

To: Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Ship Masters and Recognized Organizations

Dear Sir/Madam,

Extension of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 to Hong Kong

The Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), 2006 will enter into force for Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China on 20 December 2018. Under the MLC, all Hong Kong registered ships of 500 gross tonnage and above engaged on international voyages must obtain a Declaration of Maritime Labour Compliance (DMLC Part I & II) and a Maritime Labour Certificate.

As part of the implementation, the replacement of the downloaded versions (dated 15 March 2013 and 11 November 2016) DMLC Part I with the latest mandatory 2018 version of DMLC Part I will be free of charge. The ship owners and managers in Hong Kong will be notified accordingly for the collection of this mandatory DMLC Part I which contains the national requirements on the MLC for compliance with 16 areas of the MLC, 2006

For Hong Kong registered ships that have already possessed MLC “Statement of Compliance” on board, ship owners and managers are required to obtain a Maritime Labour Certificate from the appropriate RO before 20 December 2018. The existing DMLC Part II on board will not be affected by the replacement of the latest mandatory DMLC Part I. There is no further need to replace the existing DMLC Part II for such ships.

This Administration, HKMD has authorised the following nine Recognised Organizations (RO) to issue the “Maritime Labour Certificate” for replacement of previously issued “Statement of Compliance” to all Hong Kong registered ships on behalf of the HKSAR Government and to carry out all other duties associated with the Convention. These ROs are:

American Bureau of Shipping (ABS);
Bureau Veritas (BV);
China Classification Society (CCS);
DNV GL;
Korean Register of Shipping (KR);
Lloyd's Register (LR);
Nippon Kaiji Kyokai (NK);
RINA S.p.A. (RINA); and
Russian Maritime Register of Shipping (RS)

MLC requirements also apply to Hong Kong registered ships of less than 500 gross tonnage engaged on international voyages, except that a Compliance Report could be issued instead of the Maritime Labour Certificate. Ship owners and managers of such ships are required to approach their ROs and/or this Administration and ensure relevant documents are provided on board before 20 December 2018.

For details please refer to Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 25/2018: <https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/pdf/msin1825.pdf>

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us by email at dmlc@mardep.gov.hk.

Yours faithfully,

(No signature on website copy)

(C.L. FONG)

Senior Surveyor of Ships / Cargo Ships Safety Section
for Director of Marine