



本署檔號 OUR REF: SD/S 501/2
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5 June 2018

To: Shipowners, Ship Managers and Parties Concerned

Dear Sir/ Madam,

**Application for the“Certificate of Insurance or
Other Financial Security in Respect of Civil Liability
for Wreckage Removal (WRC)” Issued by Mainland Authority**

The Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007 (the Convention) has entered into force on 14 April 2015. Since then ships trading to the countries that have ratified the Convention need to hold a certificate certifying that they have insurance to cover the liability of the owner for the costs of locating, marking and removing ships and wrecks under the Convention.

The Convention applies to all Hong Kong registered sea-going ships with international voyage having 300 gross tonnages or above. As stated in No.7/2015 of the Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note (HKMSIN), before the Convention comes into force in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the aforesaid ships are required to approach any of the State Parties to obtain the WRC Certificate before calling any ports of State Parties to the Convention.

Besides services currently provided by foreign State Parties, the China Maritime Safety Administration (MSA) has also agreed to issue the WRC Certificate for Hong Kong registered ships and the Shenzhen MSA has been appointed as the issuing authority. The service will be available from **15 June 2018** onwards. Owners/Managers of Hong Kong registered ships who wish to apply for the WRC Certificate issued by the Mainland Authority should follow the procedures at **Annex 1** and submit a completed application form at **Annex 2** to the Hong Kong Marine Department for processing. In order to expedite the processing of application, please pay special attention to the application procedures and guidelines at Annex 1 before lodging an application.

This Department is in regular contact with the Shenzhen MSA on this matter. Owners/Managers of Hong Kong registered ships will be kept posted if there are streamlined procedures for applying for the WRC Certificate in future.

Should you have any enquiries regarding the aforesaid matter, please contact the Cargo Ships Safety Section at:

Tel: (852) 2852 4519 or 2852 4510

Fax: (852) 2545 0556

Email: wrc@mardep.gov.hk

Yours faithfully,

(No signature on website copy)

(Q. SHI)
General Manager of
Ship Safety Branch
Shipping Division
for Director of Marine