

Republic of the Marshall Islands

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY No. 28-20

To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Nautical Inspectors, Recognized Organizations

Subject: 2018 AMENDMENTS TO MLC, 2006

Date: 22 September 2020

On 26 December 2020, the [2018 amendments](#) to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006) are expected to enter into force (EIF).

They require seafarer employment agreements (SEAs) (i.e., wages and other entitlements) to continue to have effect when seafarers are held captive on or off the ship due to piracy or armed robbery. The SEAs must remain in effect until the seafarer is released and repatriated or perishes in captivity.

The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator has implemented these amendments through §7.45.1 of the RMI Maritime Regulations ([MI-108](#)). As a result:

- RMI-flagged shipowners must ensure that SEAs and/or any applicable collective bargaining agreements that are signed on or after the EIF date cover the 2018 MLC, 2006 amendments.
- The 2018 MLC, 2006 amendments do not necessitate changes to the Declaration of Maritime Labour Compliance (DMLC) Part I, so no new DMLC Part I is needed and none will be issued due to these amendments.
- DMLC Part II amendments, if any, do not require submission to the Recognized Organizations (ROs) at this time. ROs will be confirming compliance with the new requirements during their MLC, 2006 inspections on or after the EIF date.

See also RMI Marine Notice [7-052-2](#), *Maximum Period of Shipboard Service for Seafarers Under the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006)* and RMI Marine Guideline [7-45-1](#), *Guidance on Seafarer Employment Agreements* which have been updated to include this requirement.

This MSA expires one (1) year after its issuance, unless otherwise noted, extended, superseded, or revoked.