



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF MARITIME AFFAIRS AND INSULAR POLICY

HELLENIC COAST GUARD HEADQUARTERS
GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR SHIPPING
GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR SHIPS' CONTROL

PIRAEUS, 29.12.2020

CIRCULAR

**SUBJECT: "UPDATE OF INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION RELATED MEASURES FOR SEAFARERS AND SHIPS
TAKEN BY THE HELLENIC MARITIME ADMINISTRATION WITH RESPECT TO COVID-19"**

1. Seafarers' Certificates

A general extended validity of six (06) months is granted by the Greek Maritime Administration to all Greek Certificates of Competency (CoC) and Certificates of Proficiency (CoP) of the seafarers on board vessels, which expired or are due to expire until 31 March 2021.

The Hellenic Maritime Administration also allows for the extension of the endorsements of attestation, provided that the CoC and the CoP of the foreign Authority, which are endorsed, have a period of validity extending until the date of the granted extension.

The aforementioned extensions are in effect without requiring any additional entry on the certificate or submission of relevant request or other documents.

2. Ship Inspection and Certification

Whereas physical surveys, audits and inspections of Greek flagged vessels pertinent to the maritime safety, security, pollution prevention and labour legislation, either international and/or national, are not possible to be carried out due to force majeure, the validity of the relevant certificates may be extended by the flag administration up to four (04) months, on condition that a remote survey conducted with remote inspection techniques (R.I.T.) has taken place with satisfactory results. In such case, documentary evidence needs to be submitted by the RO or the shipping company to the Hellenic Maritime Administration as a proof to force majeure and of the substance of the inspection. This extension is additional to any other statutory extension provided by the applicable legislation and has already been granted and it may be further extended by means of a decision from the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy.

In the same vein, whereas physical inspection of Greek flagged vessels for verifying the rectification of damages or failures of the vessel, is not possible to be carried out due to force majeure, such inspection may be conducted remotely with remote inspection techniques (R.I.T.). In such case,



documentary evidence needs to be submitted by the RO or the shipping company to the Hellenic Maritime Administration as a proof to force majeure and of the substance of the inspection.

All Greek Flagged vessels shall carry on board the present document in order to be presented to any third party, e.g. Port State Control Officers and other stakeholders, as necessary.

Updated information as regards circulars, decisions and health guidance provided by the international and national institutions are available online at the International Maritime Organization, [European Maritime Safety Agency](#) and the [Hellenic Coast Guard](#) website.

**HELLENIC COAST GUARD
1ST DEPUTY COMMANDANT**

**VICE ADMIRAL (HCG)
KONSTANTINOS POULIS**

