Circular 227/2020

To: Owners, Managers, Fleet Managers, Deputy Registrars, Recognized Organizations.

Subject: COVID-19 – Extension of mandatory surveys, audits, inspections and validity of statutory certificates.

Date: 19th March 2020

Summary

Maritime Cook Islands (MCI) understands that, following the outbreak of COVID-19, an increasing number of countries are implementing travel restrictions and access limitations that are likely to cause delays for -

- Flag States and Recognised Organizations (ROs), in reaching vessels and completing statutory work within the required timeframe; and
- vessels needing to complete docking and servicing of critical equipment according to the requirements of applicable instruments.

MCI will be applying the concept of "force majeure" where statutory work, docking or servicing cannot be carried out in circumstances arising due to COVID-19; in such circumstances MCI may permit extensions, relaxing the standards of the regulations referenced in paragraphs 5.2, 5.3, 5.6, 5.9 and 5.10 of Assembly Resolution 1120(30), as well as any other applicable standards that MCI may deem appropriate.

Owners and managers that are experiencing problems in arranging statutory visits, docking or mandatory servicing of critical equipment may submit an extension request to MCI.

Vessels holding statutory certificates issued by MCI must submit a request in writing to their flag representative (Deputy Registrar and/or Fleet Manager) **not earlier than 30 days before the survey window closing or docking/servicing deadline**.

The written request shall include supporting objective evidence that would justify the application of force majeure; MCI will assess requests on a case by case basis.

Vessels holding statutory certificates issued by an RO on behalf of the Cook Islands must contact the RO to make necessary arrangements for extensions. ROs are required to inform MCI, requesting concurrence on possible extension recommendations.

MCI would like to highlight that vessels' Owners and Managers will continue to be responsible to maintain safety, environmental and labour standards, according to the applicable instruments, for the entire period of the extension, and are required to report immediately to MCI any technical failure, deficiency or non-conformity arising during the extension period.

MCI will continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and take necessary steps to ensure suitable response to the situation, flagged vessels, crew, managers, and owners.

Maritime Cook Islands might amend or cancel this circular at any time taking into consideration any change or advise provided by Authorities in respect to COVID-19 outbreak.

For further enquiries, please contact Maritime Cook Islands at technical@maritimecookislands.com

COOK ISLANDS
EXTENSION REQUEST FORM

Ship Registration
FORM 55A
v.1

Important Notes:

- This application form is to be completed in all respects by the relevant classification society / owner / manager and / or Master and submitted to MCI for review and approval.
- Each application must be supported by the appropriate documentation and justification in respect to the extension being applied for.
- Extensions can only be issued in accordance to MCI Circular 227/2020.

SHIP'S MAIN DATA

- NAME OF SHIP:
- IMO NUMBER:
- PORT OF REGISTRY:
- OFFICIAL NUMBER:
- LL LENGTH:
- GROSS TONNAGE:
- CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY:

GIVE DETAILS OF EXTENSION BEING APPLIED FOR, INCLUDING LIST OF STATUTORY CERTIFICATES WITH THEIR EXPIRY DATES AND / OR DUE DATES:

CERTIFICATE	*EXPIRY DATE / DUE DATE*

GIVE DETAILS OF EXTENSION BEING APPLIED FOR, INCLUDING LIST OF EQUIPMENTS (LIFERAFTS, LIFEBOATS, FIXED FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEM, PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND OTHERS) WITH THEIR EXPIRY DATES AND / OR DUE DATES:

EQUIPMENT	*EXPIRY DATE / DUE DATE*

DETAILS OF ENTITY APPLYING FOR EXTENSION (OWNERS / MANAGERS / MASTER / CLASS):

GIVE DETAILS WITH JUSTIFICATION FOR THE GRANTING OF THE EXTENSION:

_____ at _____

(Date of request dd/mm/yyyy) *(Place of request)*

_____ _____

(Name of entity applying for extension) *(Signature)*