Panama Maritime Authority
General Directorate of Merchant Marine
Control and Compliance Department

F-410
(DCCM)
V.03

COVID-19 Request for Postponement- Extension of Statutory Certification & Services

No: **MMN-07/2020**

Purpose

1. This Merchant Marine Notice has the purpose to inform all ships' owners/operators, Recognized Organizations and other interested parties on how to proceed in case of request for postponement-extension of statutory certification & services.

2. As the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of the novel coronavirus a pandemic, it is vital that all governments remind that around 90% of global trade is transported by commercial shipping, which moves the world's food, energy and commercial goods (among them medical supplies).

3. It is our intention to contribute to keep maritime trade moving in this time of global crisis, in particular by facilitating the postponement-extension of all statutory certification, all survey services including ISM Code/ISPS Code audits and inspections related to MLC, 2006, in addition applying this principle to Annual Safety Inspection (ASI) established by our flag, this exceptional measures are taken essentially in response to the current shut-downs, lock downs, and travel restrictions, implemented by several States worldwide.

Instructions to Recognized Organizations

4. All statutory Certificates' extensions for the maximum period of three (3) months according to Conventions shall be requested on a case by case basis to this Administration. (see contacts table below).

5. Following the recommendation in the IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.19/Rev.2, dated 22 July 2020, Recognized Organizations are instructed from 1st September 2020, to request authorization to issue conditional certificates on a case by case

basis due to extraordinary circumstances and if no other alternative exist, following the annexed Guiding Principles in the IMO Circular Letter (Guiding principles for the provision of technical and implementation advice to flag States when considering whether to permit statutory certificate extension beyond 3 months).

6. This circular Letter is available clicking on the desired language English or Spanish. Therein, key aspects were underlined for interested parties to take into account. The term "short-term certificate or other measure" indicated in this Circular Letter shall be understood as "**conditional certificate**"; therefore, the measure adopted by this Administration. The conditional certificate validity should be according to the authorization letter granted.

7. The postponement/Extension of the inspection of the outside ships' bottom will continue to be processed on a case by case basis. Please follow the guidelines provided in our Merchant Marine Circular No.204 further to the IMO Circular Letter. Inspections afloat using remote inspection techniques might be allowed under exceptional circumstances. Extensions beyond three (3) months may require an appropriate risk-based survey approved by the RO, including mitigation measures.

8. Equipment Services: services and expiry date of life saving appliances, navigation and firefighting equipment's are allowed for an immediate extension valid for three (3) months subject to the agreement of the Recognized Organization. Extensions required beyond three (3) months period will be granted on a case by case basis, according to the circumstances, provided that supporting evidence of each case is presented (see contacts table below).

9. For ISPS, ISM and MLC authorization you should apply through the E-SEGUMAR platform to postpone the verification for three (3) months through the following website link: http://certificates.amp.gob.pa/certificates.

10. Remote surveys may be allowed after evaluating the scope intended to cover, and on a case by case basis due to exceptional circumstances of COVID-19. In case of permanent authorization for remote surveys in ordinary circumstances, please refer to Merchant Marine Circular No.382.

11. Ships Registry Certificates (Patent) and Radio Station since 14 April 2020 are issued in electronic form. Please contact cvaldes@amp.gob.pa and jmarauz@amp.gob.pa in case of assistance is required.

12. The following table provides the contact email addresses of our SEGUMAR offices posted around the world:

Americas	
SEGUMAR Panama	extensions@segumar.com, conditionals@segumar.com, authorizations@segumar.com, mlc@segumar.com, isps@amp.gob.pa.
SEGUMAR Miami	segumar.miami@segumar.com
SEGUMAR Houston	offshore@segumar.com
Asia	
SEGUMAR Tokyo	segumar@panaconsul-tokyo.com
SEGUMAR Imabari	segumar.imabari@segumar.com rchacon@segumarimabari.jp
SEGUMAR Seoul	segumarseoul@segumar.com
SEGUMAR Busan	segumarbusan@segumar.com
SEGUMAR Singapore	segumar.sg@segumar.com
SEGUMAR Shanghai	segumar.shanghai@segumar.com
SEGUMAR Manila	segumar.manila@segumar.com
Europe	
SEGUMAR Piraeus	segumarpg@segumar.com;
SEGUMAR Istanbul	segumarist@segumar.com
SEGUMAR London	segumar.uk@segumar.com
Middle East	
SEGUMAR Dubai	segumar.dubai@segumar.com

13. The implementation of these instructions is due to the urgency related to Covid-19. However, as soon as the crises overcome, and restrictions imposed by each State have raised, we will return to our regular procedures, and a review of the new mechanisms implemented will take place. The Administration will continue evaluating the current worldwide situation due to the Covid-19.

We recommend all interested parties to continue monitoring the situation by consulting the Marine Notices and procedures communicated by the WHO, the IMO, ILO, and each Recognized Organization, including their special attention to the Annex "**Guiding principles for the provision of technical and implementation advice to flag States**

when considering whether to permit statutory certificate extension beyond 3 months developed by IACS, as it is recommended by the IMO through its Circular Letter No.4204/Add.19/Rev.2 dated 22 July 2020: Guidance for flag States regarding surveys and renewals of certificates during the COVID-19 pandemic.

August, 2020 – *completely revised.*
May 22, 2020 – *paragraph 1 amended and sub-paragraph b) added, paragraphs 2,3, 4 and 11 amended.*
May, 2020 *– Deleted of letter (d) of paragraph 4 and changed of numerical sequence of paragraph 8 to 5 regarding ISPS certification.*
April, 2020 – *paragraphs 2, 3, and 5 amended, letters h) and i) added in paragraph 4.*
April, 2020 – *In point 1, content in letter a) amended and content in letter b) deleted; Point 4 letter h) deleted due to ambiguity; point 5 split in 5) original signed and 6) soft copy of MSMC for MODU/MOU added, next points renumbered and last note add WHO and IMO.*
March, 2020.

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Merchant Marine Notice or any other request should be forward to:

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General Directorate of Merchant Marine
Panama Maritime Authority

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E-mail: segumar.headoffice@segumar.com
Website: https://panamashipregistry.com/marine-category/marine-notices/