



**PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY**  
**MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-302**

PanCanal Building  
Albrook, Panama City  
Republic of Panama  
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**To:** Ship-owners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organizations (ROs).

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**Subject:** Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006). EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE AND DISPENSATION LETTER. TITLE 3. REGULATION 3.1.- ACCOMMODATION AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

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**Reference:** Law 2 of January 6, 2009.

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1. That the Republic of Panama ratified the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006), by Law No. 2 of January 6th of 2009, duly regulated through Executive Decree No. 86 of February, 2013.
2. That the MLC establishes on its *Article VI* “The Regulations and the provisions of Part A of the Code are mandatory. The provisions of Part B of the Code are not mandatory”.
3. That due to the large quantity of Panama flagged vessels whose construction was terminated, or whose keel was laid on a date after August 20th of 2013, and that they do not comply with the Standards and/or Guidelines of Title 3, Regulation 3.1, it becomes necessary that this Administration communicates to users of the Ship Registry, that while the National Legislation incorporates Standards and Guidelines, the Flag’s requirements, regarding Standards, which are of mandatory compliance, cannot be the same as the requirements regarding Guidelines, which are not mandatory, relating to ship construction and equipment, therefore, this Administration takes the following measures, destined to provide our users with a service in accordance to the demands of the MLC, 2006, as follows:
  - Whenever a ship does not comply with the regulations of Law Decree No. 86 of 2013, on TITLE IV ACCOMODATION, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, FOOD AND CATERING CHAPTER I ACCOMODATION AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES (MLC, Title 3, Regulation 3.1, Standard A3.1, Part A in the MLC Code), it must apply for an exemption certificate, in accordance to the form and procedure established on MMC 191.
  - Whenever a ship does not comply with the regulations of Law Decree No. 86 of 2013, on TITLE IV ACCOMODATION, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, FOOD AND CATERING CHAPTER I ACCOMODATION AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

<i>Prepared by: Translator</i>	<b>Revised by: Compliance and Enforcement Deputy Chief</b>	<i>Approved by: Compliance and Enforcement Chief</i>
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(MLC, Title 3, Guideline, Part B in the MLC Code), it must request a dispensation letter, by sending an e-mail to [mlc@segumar.com](mailto:mlc@segumar.com)/[mlcsegumar@amp.gob.pa](mailto:mlcsegumar@amp.gob.pa) , explaining the reasons and attaching a copy of the vessel's plan. This letter will be issued without any cost, by the Segumar Technical Office – Panama.

4. The exemption certificate and/or the dispensation letter, must be attached to the Declaration of Maritime Labour Compliance, and to the Maritime Labour Certificate, and must be available to the competent authorities.

November, 2014

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any request should be directed to:

Maritime Labour Section

Directorate General of Merchant Marine

Panama Maritime Authority

Phone: (507) 501-4241

Fax: (507) 501-5363 / 5364

Email: [mlc@segumar.com](mailto:mlc@segumar.com)

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