



**PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY**  
**MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-180**

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**To:** Shipowners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organizations (ROs).

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**Subject:** Accession & Entry into force of the Bunkers Convention 2001

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**Reference:** International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage of 2001 (Bunkers Convention).  
Merchant Marine Circular N°.198  
Law N°.7 of January 14, 2009  
Merchant Marine Circular N°.202

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1. The purpose of this Merchant Marine Circular is to inform that the Republic of Panama submitted, to the Secretariat of the International Maritime Organization, the instrument of accession to the Bunker Convention 2001 on February 17, 2009.
2. Following the requirements of the Article 14, paragraph 2, of the Bunker Convention 2001, which indicates that: “For any State which ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to it after the conditions in paragraph 1 for entry into force have been met, this Convention shall enter into force three months after the date of deposit by such State of the appropriate instrument.”; this Administration will be able to issue the Bunker Convention certificate to Panamanian flagged vessels beginning May 17, 2009.
3. The Certificates issued before May 17, 2009 by other Administrations to Panamanian flagged vessels, will remain valid until their expiration date.
4. From August 1, 2016, applications should be placed by accessing the following link: <http://certificates.amp.gob.pa/certificates>, please make sure that the Blue Card is readily available to upload in the system and evidence of the payment made to Segumar New York Office “PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY” has been made. The cost of the certificate will be \$250.00.
5. Aiming to provide a good quality service, and beginning on November, 2009, the Merchant Marine Consulates, duly approved by the General Directorate of Merchant Marine, will be involved with the issuance of the Bunker Convention Certificate. As of today the

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consulates with this authorization are: Piraeus, Tokyo, Seoul, Singapore, Kobe, Bangkok, Rotterdam, Ho Chi Minh, Dubai, Taipei, Buenos Aires, Jakarta, Istanbul, Los Angeles, Hamburg, London and our Economic & Commercial Office in Hong Kong. This shall be done by meeting the same requirements as if applying through the Segumar Offices. This will shorten the period for the issuance of this Certificate since it will not be necessary to be sent by courier. The cost of the Certificate, in the cases where the application is done through a Merchant Marine Consulate will be \$250.00 plus a \$100.00 Consular fee.

6. Please refer to our Merchant Marine Circular N°.202, where the list of approved P&I/Insurers is regularly updated.
7. The Panama Maritime Authority will issue Bunker Convention Certificates to ships flagged in States not party to the Bunker Convention 2001.

**August, 2017** – *contact e-mail address and phone number updated.*

**August, 2016** – *All previous text on the Entry into force of the Bunker Convention and issuance of a Certificate of Compliance with the Bunker Convention Certificate has been deleted; text included previously in the MMC No.202 on the accession of the Bunker Convention 2001, has been added.*

**August, 2008**

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

**Directorate General of Merchant Marine**

**Panama Maritime Authority**

**Phone: (507) 501-5357 / 501-5352 /501-5355**

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