



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-290

PanCanal Building
Albrook, Panama City
Republic of Panama
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To: Ship-owners/Operators, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates, Class Societies, Recognized Organizations (RO's) and Management Companies.

Subject: Accession of the Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea, 2002.

Reference:

- a) Law No.96, 7 November 2013
 - b) IMO Circular letter No.2758, 20 November 2006.
 - c) Resolution J.D. No. 038-2014
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1. Purpose

- 1.1. Inform that the Republic of Panama submitted to the Secretariat of the International Maritime Organization, the accession of the Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea, 1974, on 23 January 2014, in accordance with article 17.
- 1.2. Following the requirements of the article 20 (2), of the Athens Convention 2002, which indicates that “For any State which ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to this Protocol after the conditions in paragraph 1 for entry into force have been met, this Protocol shall enter into force three months after the date of deposit by such State of the appropriate instrument, but not before this Protocol has entered into force in agreement with paragraph 1.”; the Protocol will enter into force for Panama on 23 April 2014.
- 1.3. When passengers are carried on board a ship registered in a State Party that is licensed to carry more than twelve passengers, and the Athens Convention applies, any carrier who actually performs the whole or a part of the carriage shall maintain insurance or other financial security, such as the guarantee of a bank or similar financial institution, to cover liability under this Convention in respect of the death of and personal injury to passengers. The limit of the compulsory insurance or other financial security shall not be less than 250,000 units of account per passenger on each distinct occasion, according to article 4bis (1).

2. Certificate

- 2.1. In accordance with the provisions of article 4bis (2) “a certificate attesting that insurance or other financial security is in force in accordance with the provisions of

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Athens Convention shall be issued to each ship after the appropriate authority of a State Party has determined that the requirements of paragraph 1 have been complied with.”

- 2.2. The Panama Maritime Authority will issue Athens Convention Certificates to ships flagged in States not party to the Convention.
- 2.3. The certificates issued before 23 April 2014 by other Administrations to Panamanian flagged vessels, will remain valid until their expiry date.
- 2.4. The Insurers/ P & I Clubs approved to issue the Blue Cards required by the Athens Convention 2002 are the same one listed in our Merchant Marine Circular No.202.

3. Application

- 3.1. In order to obtain the Panamanian Athens Convention Certificates (PAL), from August 1, 2016, applications should be placed through the following link: <http://certificates.amp.gob.pa/certificates>, please make sure that the Blue Cards are readily available to upload in the system and evidence of the payment made to Segumar Miami Office “PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY” has been made.
- 3.2. The cost of the Certificate will be \$300.00.
- 3.3. On the blue cards, the field labeled “TO” the information to be used is as follows:
Panama Maritime Authority
P.O. Box 0843-0533
Balboa, Ancon
Panama, Republic of Panama

August, 2017 – Amendment to paragraph 3.1.

February, 2015 – Subject: word Ratification replaced by Accession. Last sentence in 3.1 was deleted. After 3.1 new point 3.2 inserted. Reference to Res. J.D. No.038-2014

June, 2014

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

Directorate General of Merchant Marine

Panama Maritime Authority

Phone: (507) 501-5033

liabilities@segumar.com

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