

# MARITIME ACTIVITIES CONSULTANTS S.A.

*"CONNECTING YOUR BUSINESS TO THE MARITIME RESOURCES YOU NEED"*



**TECHNICAL SERVICE CIRCULAR No.  
03/2020, Date: 21/12/2020**

**Subject: " Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Designation of Seafarers as Key Workers (I.M.O. Circular Letter No.4204/Add.35) "**

## **Background Brief:**

**1. The United Nations General Assembly on the UN** recently called for the designation of seafarers and other marine personnel as key workers. In a resolution on international cooperation to address challenges faced by seafarers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic to support global supply chains, adopted on 1 December, the United Nations recognizes the need for an urgent and concrete response from all stakeholders, including the private sector, to resolve the situation of seafarers stranded at sea and/or unable to join ships because of national travel restrictions introduced across the globe as a result of the pandemic. The resolution also encourages Governments and relevant stakeholders to implement IMO-recognized protocols to ensure safe ship crew changes and travel during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**2. IMO Circular Letter (No. 4204/Add.35) on the Designation of Seafarers as "Key Workers":** As per IMO Circular Letter, as of 14 December 2020, forty-five IMO Member States including several with emerging International Ship Registry and one Associate Member have designated seafarers as key workers. Keyworker designation for seafarers is essential to exempt these professionals from specific

COVID-related travel restrictions, allowing them to travel between their country of residence and ships, and to be repatriated at the end of their contracts, notably to allow crew changes to take place. As of 14 December 2020, forty-five IMO Member States including Gabon and one Associate Member have designated seafarers as key workers.

### **Follow-up Action**

**3. Maritime Activities Consultants S.A.** in close co-operation with International Ship Registers concerned and its clients to whom provides seafarers certification services for various flags is committed to join forces and streamline its business practices and procedures in order to adopt to the above policy guidelines introduced by the international maritime community.

***"SIMPLIFYING YOUR MARITIME NEEDS"***



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