



**DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA**  
**MERCHANT SHIPPING SECRETARIAT**  
**MINISTRY OF PORTS AND SHIPPING**

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## **MSN 32/2016**

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**Notice to All Ship-Owners, Operators, Training Institutes, Masters of Sri Lankan Flagged Ships, and Recognized Organizations.**

### **Amendments to MLC 2006 – Repatriation and Shipowners’ Liability**

#### **1. Purpose**

This Notice provides information to all parties regarding the amendments of 2014 to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC 2006) requirements; particularly on financial security required with regards the following:

- 1 Repatriation of abandoned seafarers (Standard A2.5.2); and
- 2 Shipowners’ liability for contractual claims (Standard A4.2.1)

All Sri Lankan vessels trading internationally are urged take necessary measures in compliance with below requirements.

The amendments of the Maritime Labour Convention will enter into force on 18 January 2017.

#### **2. Requirements**

##### **2.1 Seafarers**

All seafarers are entitled to coverage for repatriation; however, in practice, the needs of seafarers who are abandoned are not adequately covered under the existing provisions. The adopted amendments include, in brief:

- Financial security is to be provided to ensure abandoned seafarers have adequate food, accommodation, drinking water and fuel for survival on board the ship and medical care.
- Financial security shall also be sufficient to cover outstanding wages limited to four months as well as all expenses incurred by the seafarer, including the cost of repatriation.
- Certificate or other documentary evidence of financial security shall be posted on board.

## 2.2 Shipowners' Liability

Shipowners' liability covers requirements for shipowners to provide financial security to assure compensation in the event of death or long-term disability of a seafarer due to occupational injury, illness or hazard. The adopted amendments include, in brief:

- Financial security to ensure contractual compensation is paid in full and without delay, in accordance with the Seafarer's Employment Agreement.
- For long-term disability, an interim payment shall be provided, where the full compensation is difficult to assess.
- Seafarers shall receive a notification if the shipowner's financial security is to be cancelled or terminated.
- Financial security as a social security scheme, insurance or fund; determined by the member state in question in consultation with the shipowners' and seafarers' organizations concerned.
- Certificate or other documentary evidence of financial security issued by the financial security provider shall be posted on board.

2.3 From January 18, 2017 on board of all Sri Lankan flag vessels that are subject to the MLC convention shall maintain on board both financial security (P&I Club or insurer) -Regulations 2.5 –Repatriation- and 4.2 -Shipowner's Liability- which shall be verified during the first intermediate inspection carried out on or after January 18, 2017.

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