Subject: Bahrain Marine Notice No. 01 of 2020 & No. 2 of 2020 Reg.
Guidance on extraordinary measures relating to extension of ship’s
statutory certificates, audits and inspections and seafarer’s certification
resulting due to COVID-19 pandemic

1. The Maritime Administration of Bahrain, vide Marine Notice No. 1 of 2020 & 2 of 2020
has adopted following extraordinary measures with respect to extension of ship’s
statutory certification, audits and inspections and the seafarers certificates in view of
outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.

A. Seafarers Certification:
The validity of all expired seafarer’s certificates issued in accordance with the
STCW Convention 1978, as amended, including Certificate of Competency (COC),
Certificate of Proficiency (COF), Certificate of basic training, Medical Fitness
certificates and Endorsements attesting recognition of certificates are extended for
a period of three (3) months starting from 26 March 2020.

B. Statutory Surveys, audits and inspections:
   a. The Administration accepts the extension of validity period of statutory
certificates, audits and inspections until 30th June 2020 without the prior
approval of the Administration, which includes;

      i. Statutory certificates issued by Recognized Organizations (replacement with
         new certificate is not required).

      ii. Certificates issued by service providers for servicing of life saving
equipment, firefighting equipment or radio equipment.

      iii. Bottom inspections which are due before 30th June 2020.

   iv. Annual internal audits as described in paragraph 12.1 of the ISM Code.

   v. Periodical ISM & ISPS verifications.

   b. All cases of extensions and postponement are to be reported afterwards by the
ROs to the Administration at –ship_registry@mtt.gov.bh
2. The extension measures mentioned above do not apply to certificates issued directly by the Administration including Navigation License, Safe Manning Document, Exemption Certificates and Bunker Certificates.

3. Ship owners/ operators and masters of Bahrain flagged ships are advised to be guided by above.

**Enclosure:** Bahrain Marine Notice No. 1 of 2020 & 2 of 2020.
Concerning Corona Virus (COVID-19) 
Guidance Relating to Extension 
Certificates of Seafarers

To: – Shipping companies with ships registered under the Bahraini flag; 
– Recognized Organizations; 
– Whom it may concern.

In light of the precautionary measures taken to prevent an outbreak of the Corona Virus (COVID-19), and in accordance to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch keeping for seafarers 1978, as amended (STCW) Convention, and in order to comply with the relevant international procedures on facilitating maritime trade during this period, and in reference to the IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.5 on the encouragement of member states to extend the validity of seafarers certificates for crews of its flag ships associated with the STCW Convention, as well as their acceptance of extensions to these certificates issued by other countries in accordance with the measures taken worldwide.

Accordingly, Ports and Maritime Affairs (PMA) decided to consider that all expired certificates issued in accordance with the STCW Convention 1978 including certificates of competency, certificate of proficiency, certificates of basic training, medical fitness certificates, and endorsements attesting recognition of certificates, for seafarers

Marine Notice: PMA/DSRSA/H/2020

Ports and Maritime Affairs : P.O. Box 75315, Kingdom of Bahrain www.mtt.gov.bh
For further information and clarifications please contact:
Ship_registry@mtt.gov.bh
Special Measures Concerning the extension of certificates, inspections and audits for Bahraini Flagged Ships due to the Outbreak of Corona Virus (COVID-19)

To:  
- Shipping companies with ships registered under the Bahraini flag;  
- Recognized Organizations;  
- Whom it may concern.

In light of the precautionary measures taken to prevent an outbreak of the Corona Virus (COVID-19), and in order to ensure full implementation Legislative Decree (14) for year 1978 with regard to promulgation of registration of ships and determination of its safety, and Ministerial Decree (2) for year 2016 with regard to the implementation of maritime conventions, the Ports and Maritime Affairs (PMA) decided to accept the extension of the certificates, inspections and audits for Bahraini flagged ships from the date of this Marine Notice till 30th June 2020 without the prior approval of PMA, which includes:

1. Statutory certificates issued by Recognized Organizations, and it will not be required to replace with new certificates onboard.
2. Certificates issued by service providers for servicing of life saving equipment, fire-fighting equipment or radio equipment.

3. Bottom inspections which are due before 30th June 2020.

4. Annual internal Audits as described in paragraph 12.1 of the ISM Code.

5. Periodical ISM & ISPS verifications.

6. All cases of extensions and postponement shall be reported afterwards by the ROs to the PMA through email (ship_registry@mtt.gov.bh).

7. The extensions mentioned in this marine notice do not include certificates issued directly by the PMA which are the Navigation License, Safe Manning Document, Exemption Certificates and Bunker Certificates.

For further information and clarifications please contact:
Ship_registry@mtt.gov.bh

The assistant undersecretary for maritime affairs

Assistant Undersecretary for Maritime Affairs

Issued on: 26th April 2020

Marine Notice: PMA/2/2020