



**MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE
SHIPPING CIRCULAR
NO. 14 OF 2024**

MPA Shipping Division
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<http://www.mpa.gov.sg>

02 December 2024

Applicable to: Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, masters and Recognised Organisations

2022 AMENDMENTS TO THE MARITIME LABOUR CONVENTION (MLC), 2006

1. Amendments to the Maritime Labour Convention Code (“**MLC Code**”) were adopted by the Special Tripartite Committee (“**STC**”) of the International Labour Organization (“**ILO**”) and approved by the International Labour Conference (“**ILC**”) held in June 2022. The amendments were in the areas of health and safety protection and accident prevention, food and catering, financial security, recruitment and placement, repatriation, medical care and accommodation and recreational facilities. The amendments will enter into force on 23rd December 2024.

Amendments to Subsidiary Legislation under the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) Act 2014

2. Accordingly, the amendments necessitate changes to four (4) Subsidiary Legislations under the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 and the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) Act 2014, alongside operational policy changes.

(a) The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Seafarer Recruitment and Placement Services) Regulations 2014

- A seafarer placement and recruitment service shall establish a system of protection, by way of insurance or an equivalent appropriate measure, to compensate seafarers for monetary loss that they may incur as a result of the failure of a recruitment and placement service or the relevant shipowner under the seafarer’s employment agreement to meet its obligations to them, and ensure that seafarers are informed, prior to or in the process of engagement, of their rights under that system.

(b) The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Health and Safety Protection and Accident Prevention) Regulations 2014

- Personal protective equipment (PPE) provided for the seafarers on board are appropriately sized.

(c) The Merchant Shipping (Crew Accommodation) Regulations

- All new MLC ships shall provide access to ship to shore telephone communications and electronic mail and Internet facilities, as far as reasonably practicable.

(d) The Merchant Shipping (Provisions and Water) Regulations

- Shipowners and masters shall ensure that the organization and equipment of the catering department permits the preparation and service of adequate, varied, balanced and nutritious meals in hygienic conditions, and that the seafarers onboard shall be provided free of charge the provisions and water in the scale set out in the agreement between the seafarer and his employer.

Declaration of Maritime Labour Convention

3. Notwithstanding the amendments, MPA will not be revising the Declaration of Maritime Labour Convention (DMLC) Part I for Singapore-flagged vessels. However, shipowners are to review their policies and procedures to ensure compliance with the 2022 amendments to the MLC, 2006.

4. Recognised Organisations (ROs) will be confirming compliance with the new requirements during their MLC inspections on or after 23rd December 2024.

5. Any queries relating to this circular should be directed to the Seafarers Policy, Development & Welfare Department, Shipping Division. Email: mmo_mpa@mpa.gov.sg, Tel: 1800 272 7777 (Press 1, follow by 2).

6. The shipping community is encouraged to subscribe to our Telegram channel – t.me/MPASingapore to receive the latest updates.



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**CHEAH AUN AUN
DIRECTOR OF MARINE
MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE**