

**Circular 175/ 2018** *(This circular has been revoked and is superseded by Circular 231)*

**To:** MLC ship-owners, all commercial vessels, all dual registered vessels, Deputy Registrar, Owners, ISM Managers.

**Subject:** Maritime Labour Convention implementation

**Date:** 15th May 2018

### Summary

Maritime Cook Islands (MCI) must verify, through an effective and coordinated system of regular inspection, monitoring and other control measures, that ships comply with the requirements of the Maritime Labour Convention as implemented in the Cook Islands Maritime (Maritime Labour Convention – MLC) Rules 2014 No.1 which can be found [here](#).

MLC applies to all seafarers on board all commercial vessels whether on international or domestic voyages, publicly or privately owned, except the following:

- Ships which navigate exclusively in inland waters, or waters within or adjacent to sheltered waters or areas where port regulations apply
- Ships engaged in fishing or similar pursuits
- Traditional builds such as dhows and junks
- Warships and naval auxiliaries

MCI requires that all vessels to which MLC applies, shall be fully inspected to verify compliance with MLC requirements and shall be fully certified regardless of whether they are under 500GT.

MCI MLC vessels shall hold onboard, following satisfactory inspections the following documents, either issued by Maritime Cook Islands or an approved Recognised Organisation:

- Declaration of Maritime Labour Convention Part I
- Declaration of Maritime Labour Convention Part II
- Maritime Labour Convention Statement of Compliance

In addition to above every commercial vessel shall submit to MCI a completed declaration of the individual or entity that assumes the responsibility of the 'shipowner' under the MLC.

Attached below is **Form 88 Declaration of Ship Owner Assuming MLC Responsibilities**, MLC shipowners who have not done so already, are requested to complete the form return it to [technical@maritimecookislands.com](mailto:technical@maritimecookislands.com) & cc [Rachele@maritimecookislands.com](mailto:Rachele@maritimecookislands.com).

**Dual registered vessels** shall maintain full compliance onboard at all times, even during times of private operation. Failure to ensure compliance during private operations, will result in an additional MLC audit at the cost of the owner and in some cases may result in the revocation of commercial certificates.

This circular aims to remind owners of CI flagged vessels that Cook Islands does implement MLC on all CI flagged commercial vessels; therefore MCI shall satisfy itself at any time that its flagged vessels (**regardless of area of operation**) comply with MLC requirements.

If you require further information or assistance regarding the information contained in this circular,  
please contact the Technical Department at [technical@maritimecookislands.com](mailto:technical@maritimecookislands.com)

REVOKED