

**Circular 135/2016**

**To: Vessel Owners, Managers, Masters, Officers, Deputy Registrars, Surveyors and Other Interested Parties**

**Subject: MLC enters into force for New Zealand on 9 March 2017**

**Date: 24 May 2016**

Maritime Cook Islands wishes to inform you that the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) will enter into force for New Zealand on 9 March 2017, from which date Maritime NZ will be able to inspect for compliance with the Convention on foreign-flagged ships in New Zealand ports.

It covers commercial vessels of 200 gross tonnage or more, that operate outside the in-shore limits. It does not apply to fishing vessels.

The Convention will apply to about 890 foreign commercial cargo and cruise ships visiting New Zealand annually, and about 30 New Zealand ships.

Cook Islands ships in New Zealand ports will be inspected for compliance with the Convention during Port State Control inspections and in response to complaints.

For more information about MLC coming into force in NZ please go [here](#)

<http://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/Commercial/Shipping-safety/maritime-labour-convention/mlc-qa.asp>

**For further enquiries, please contact your Deputy Registrar or MCI head Office at [info@maritimecookislands.com](mailto:info@maritimecookislands.com)**