

Fleet Circular 160 /2017

To: Masters, Managers, Owners and Deputy Registrars

Subject: Ballast Water Management Convention Urgent Reminder

Date: 5 September 2017

Related Circulars

- [MCI 150/2017](#)
- [MCI 156/2017](#)
- [MCI 159/2017](#)

Summary

MCI takes this opportunity to remind vessel managers that the Ballast Water Management Convention 2004, comes into force on 8 September 2017.

By 8 September 2017, **all ships** to which the BWMC applies, **will be required to:**

- **Have an approved ballast water management plan on board** (BWMC Annex, Section B-1),
- **Maintain a ballast water record book** (BWMC Annex, Section B-2),
- **Manage their ballast water on every voyage** by performing ballast water exchange (or by treating it using an approved ballast water treatment system), and
- **Undertake an initial survey and be issued with an International BWM Certificate** (for ships of 400 gross tonnage and above to which BWMC applies, excluding floating platforms, FSUs and FPSOs).

Any vessel that fails to comply with the requirements of the convention by 8 September will have its Certificate of Registration suspended until certification of compliance is established.

Any vessel that is not in compliance by 1 January 2018 will be deleted from the Register.

MCI encourages any vessel that will not meet the requirements of the convention by 8 September 2017, to immediately contact the Technical Department at technical@maritimecookislands.com for assistance with compliance.