



OCTOBER 3, 2008

CIRCULAR NO. 20/08

TO MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Dear Member:

ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE BUNKERS CONVENTION: STATE CERTIFICATION

Reference is made to previous Circulars concerning the entry into force of the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage 2001 ("Bunkers Convention") and the State certification requirements contained therein.

Circular No. 17/08 of September 2, 2008 informed Members that the UK, Liberia and Cyprus, as States party to the Bunkers Convention, have agreed to issue State certificates to ships registered in non-State parties irrespective of whether they are calling at a port in their territory or arriving at or leaving an offshore facility in their territorial waters after the entry into force date of 21 November 2008. Cyprus will not however issue certificates to ships flying the flag of a State that appears in the Black List of the Paris MOU for the year preceding the date of the request.

A small number of other administrations have since agreed to issue certificates to ships registered in non-State parties as well, namely the Cook Islands, Bahamas, Sierra Leone and the Isle of Man. The relevant contact details for Bunkers Convention State certificates in each of these administrations are as follows:

The Cook Islands

Maritime Cook Islands
PO Box 882
Avarua, Rarotonga
Cook Islands
Tel: +682 23 848
Fax: +682 23 846
Skype: [mcicooks2](https://www.skype.com/name/mcicooks2)

Web: <http://www.maritimecookislands.com/bunker-insurance.php>



Bahamas

The Bahamas Maritime
Authority
120 Old Broad Street
London
EC2N 1AR
United Kingdom

The Bahamas Maritime
Authority
Bahamas House
231 East 46th Street
New York
New York 10017
United States of America

The Bahamas Maritime
Authority
Manx Corporate Centre
West Bay Street
P.O. Box N-4679
Nassau, Bahamas

Tel. +44 20 7562 1300
Fax. +44 20 7614 0650

Tel. +1 212 829 0221
Fax. +1 212 829 0356

Tel: +1 242 356 5772
Fax: +1 242 356 5889

E-Mail: reg@bahamasmaritime.com
Web: www.bahamasmaritime.com

Sierra Leone

Mr. Woody Vaughn
Sierra Leone International Ship Registry
1010 Common St. Suite 2533
New Orleans,
Louisiana 70112
United States

Tel: +1 504 636 1387
Fax: +1 504 636 1388
E-mail: technical@sierraleoneship.com

Web: <http://sierraleoneship.com>

Isle of Man

Department of Trade and Industry
Isle of Man Ship Registry
Peregrine House
Peel Road
DOUGLAS
Isle of Man
IM1 5EH

Tel: +44 (0) 1624 688500
Fax: +44 (0) 1624 688501
E-mail: registry.marine@gov.im



A full list of the contact details for certificates in the UK, Liberia, Cyprus, Cook Islands, Bahamas, Sierra Leone and the Isle of Man is contained in the Annex to this circular.

It should be noted that the UK has to date only extended UK ratification of the Bunkers Convention to the Isle of Man and not to any of the other UK Overseas Territories/Crown Dependencies. Ships registered in one of the Red Ensign Group of registries other than the Isle of Man can in the meantime obtain their certificates from the UK.

The Cook Islands has also entered into an arrangement with the Panamanian Maritime Authority (PMA) to issue certificates for Panamanian registered vessels pending Panama's ratification of the Bunker Convention. Members with Panamanian registered vessels who wish to obtain their certificates from the Cook Islands should refer to the PMA [Merchant Marine Circular No. 180](#):

<http://www.segumar.com/HTML%20Merchant%20Marine%20Circulars/180c.pdf>

The position with regard to States party to the Convention and those that are willing to issue certificates to ships registered in non-State parties is constantly changing. A number of other States are also in the process of working toward ratification of, or accession to, the Bunkers Convention prior to the entry into force date of 21 November 2008 and may decide to issue their own State certificates from the date of their ratification or accession.

However, Members should be aware that the Convention will only enter into force in a State three months after the date of that State's ratification or accession. There is a risk that other State parties may deem certificates issued by a State party to be valid only after three months has elapsed since the issuing State's ratification of, or accession to, the Convention. Ships in possession of a certificate issued by a State party prior to the date on which the three months has elapsed should therefore be aware that they risk being detained or fined if they enter the port of another State party after the entry into force date of the Convention on 21 November 2008 and are not in possession of a valid certificate. Club cover may be prejudiced in the event of such detention or fines.

This risk does not apply to ships in possession of a certificate issued by any of the State parties mentioned in this or previous Circulars since they have all ratified or acceded to the Convention three months prior to the entry into force date.

Yours faithfully,

Joseph E. M. Hughes, Chairman & CEO
Shipowners Claims Bureau, Inc., Managers for
THE AMERICAN CLUB



**States Party to the Convention
(as at 30 September 2008)**

Bahamas, Bulgaria, Cook Islands, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Jamaica, Latvia, Lithuania, Liberia, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Norway, Poland, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Tonga, the United Kingdom¹ and Vanuatu.

All Clubs in the International Group of P&I Clubs have issued similar circulars.

¹ Includes extension of the Convention to the Isle of Man



ANNEX TO CIRCULAR NO. 20/08 OF OCTOBER 3, 2008

Full List of Contact Details

UK

CLC Bunkers
Maritime and Coastguard Agency
Bay 2/13
Spring Place
105 Commercial Road
Southampton
SO15 1EG
UK

Tel: +44 (0)23 80329110 (public enquiries)
Fax: +44 (0) 23 8032 9447
Email: bunkers@mcga.gov.uk
General Enquiries: infoline@mcga.gov.uk
Contact person: Richard Tong, + 44 (0)23 80 329202

Web: <http://www.ukshipregister.co.uk/ukr-home/forms.htm>

Liberia

Liberian International Ship & Corporate Registry
ATTN: Bunker CLC Applications
8619 Westwood Center Drive, Suite 300
Vienna, Virginia 22182, USA

Tel: +1 703 790 3434
Fax: +1 703 790 5655
Email: clc@liscr.com

Cyprus

Director
Department of Merchant Shipping
Registrar of Cyprus Ships
Kyllinis Street, Mesa Geitonia
CY-4007 LIMASSOL
Cyprus

Tel: +357 25 848 100
Fax: +357 25 848 200
E-mail: maritimeadmin@dms.mcw.gov.cy
Contact person(s): telephone direct: + 357 25 848 237

Web: www.shipping.gov.cy



The Cook Islands

Maritime Cook Islands
PO Box 882
Avarua, Rarotonga
Cook Islands
Tel: +682 23 848
Fax: +682 23 846
Skype: [mcicooks2](https://www.skype.com/user/mcicooks2)

Web: <http://www.maritimecookislands.com/bunker-insurance.php>

Bahamas

The Bahamas Maritime
Authority
120 Old Broad Street
London
EC2N 1AR
United Kingdom

The Bahamas Maritime
Authority
Bahamas House
231 East 46th Street
New York
New York 10017
United States of America

The Bahamas Maritime
Authority
Manx Corporate Centre
West Bay Street
P.O. Box N-4679
Nassau
Bahamas

Tel. +44 20 7562 1300
Fax. +44 20 7614 0650

Tel. +1 212 829 0221
Fax. +1 212 829 0356

Tel: +242 356 5772
Fax: +242 356 5889

E-Mail: reg@bahamasmaritime.com
Web: www.bahamasmaritime.com

Sierra Leone

Mr. Woody Vaughn
Sierra Leone International Ship Registry
1010 Common St. Suite 2533
New Orleans
Louisiana 70112
United States

Tel: +1 504 636 1387
Fax: +1 504 636 1388
E-mail: technical@sierraleoneship.com

Web: <http://sierraleoneship.com>



Isle of Man

Department of Trade and Industry
Isle of Man Ship Registry
Peregrine House
Peel Road
Douglas
Isle of Man
IM1 5EH

Tel: +44 (0) 1624 688500

Fax: +44 (0) 1624 688501

E-mail: registry.marine@gov.im