Liberian Administration’s ‘Implementing the ILO Maritime Labour Convention, 2006’
Imabari-9th / Tokyo-10th November, 2010

MLC 2006

Title 1. Minimum requirements for seafarers to work on a ship
By the end of this presentation you will:

• Be able to interpret the Administrations provisions for the protection of seafarers under the age of 18 years

• Be able to apply the measures that contribute to improved health and safety of seafarers at sea.

• Review the requirements to ensure ships are operated safely and by seafarers trained and qualified to perform their duties.

• Identify the measures to ensure seafarers are recruited by well regulated recruitment services.
Title 1

- Regulation 1.1 – Minimum age
  Standard A1.1 and Guideline B1.1

- Regulation 1.2 – Medical certificate
  Standard A1.2 and Guideline B1.2

- Regulation 1.3 – Training and qualifications

- Regulation 1.4 – Recruitment and placement
  Standard A1.4 and Guideline B1.4
Reg 1.1: Minimum age

Purpose: To ensure that no under-age persons work on a ship.
Minimum age

Requirements

• No person under the age of 16 years shall be employed or engaged or work on a ship.

• No seafarer under the age of 18 years shall work at night except;
  a) under an approved training programme; or
  b) the work performed at night due to its specific nature or under a recognized training programme is, as determined by the Administration, not detrimental to the health and well-being of the seafarer.
Minimum age

Requirements

Night is defined as a period of at least nine (9) hours starting no later than midnight and ending no earlier than 5 a.m.

- A ships cook shall not be less than 18 years old

- No seafarer under the age of 18 years shall be engaged or employed in any hazardous work likely to jeopardize their health or safety
Reg 1.2: Medical certificate
(Inspected & certified)

Purpose: To ensure that all seafarers are medically fit to perform their duties at sea
Medical certificate

Basic requirements

• Shipowners’ responsibility to ensure that prior to beginning work on a ship, seafarer holds a valid medical certificate issued by a duly qualified medical practitioner recognized by the competent authority, attesting that the seafarer is medically fit to perform the duties that they are to carry out at sea.

• In addition, new duty on seafarer to ensure they have a valid medical certificate
Medical certificate

Detailed requirements

• The Administration will also accept a medical certificate issued in accordance with the requirements of STCW 1978, as amended.

• All medical certificates shall be in English for ships engaged in international voyages.

• Shall be valid for a maximum period of two years, except that for seafarers under the age of 18 years the maximum period of validity shall be one year.
Medical certificate

Detailed requirements

In urgent cases, the Administration may issue a dispensation to a seafarer joining a ship, to work without a valid medical certificate until the next port of call where a medical certificate can be obtained provided that:

a) such a dispensation shall not exceed three months; and

b) the seafarer concerned is in possession of a medical certificate that has expired within the last three months.
Medical certificate

Detailed requirements

Where a medical certificate expires in the course of a voyage:

a) the certificate shall continue in force until the next port of call where the seafarer can obtain a medical certificate from a qualified medical practitioner;

a) provided that the period shall not exceed three months.
Reg 1.3: Training and qualifications

(Inspected & certified)

Purpose: To ensure that seafarers are trained and qualified to carry out their duties on board.
Training and qualifications

Basic requirements

• Every seafarer serving on board a Liberian registered ship, shall be required to possess a Liberian ‘Seafarers Identification and Record Book’ (SIRB) in accordance with RLM-118.

• Every seafarer is required to be trained or certified as competent or otherwise qualified to perform their duties and have successfully completed training for personal safety on board ship.
Training and qualifications

Detailed requirements

• All Seafarers who are part of the minimum safe manning certificate shall be trained and certified as competent, in accordance with STCW; and shall possess appropriate and valid Liberian certification and any additional special qualifications.
Reg 1.4: Recruitment and placement

(Inspected & certified)

Purpose: To ensure that seafarers have access to an efficient and well regulated seafarer recruitment and placement system.
Recruitment and placement

Basic requirements

• Public services (in an MLC country) must operate in an orderly manner that protects and promotes seafarers’ employment rights.

• Private services must operate in an accordance with a standardized system of licensing, certification, etc.

• All services are subject to close supervision and control
Recruitment and placement

Detailed requirements

• SRPS (public or private) located in a country in which MLC, 2006 does not apply – Audited by the Administration every five (5) years

• Shipowner may directly engage a seafarer. No license to operate required.
Recruitment and placement

Detailed requirements

• Private SRPS located in a country which has ratified MLC, 2006 – Operate in conformity with a standardized system of licensing or certification

• Private SRPS shall not charge seafarers any fee for recruitment or placement or for providing employment to them.

• The cost of obtaining any visas shall be borne by the shipowner.