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Circular Letter No.4246/Add.11  
10 March 2022

To: All IMO Members  
Intergovernmental organizations  
Non-governmental organizations in consultative status

Subject: **Communication from the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has sent the attached communication, dated 9 March 2022, with the request that it be circulated by the Organization.

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REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR  
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE ADMINISTRATION

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Letter No : DMA / IMO / 448

Date : 9 March 2022

To

His Excellency Mr. Kitack Lim  
Secretary General  
International Maritime Organization  
4 Albert Embankment London, SE 17 SR  
United Kingdom

Subject: **Further extension of the validity of the certificates of Myanmar seafarers serving onboard during the COVID-19 pandemic**

Your Excellency,

The Department of Marine Administration (DMA) under the Ministry of Transport and Communications presents its compliments to the Secretary General of the International Maritime Organization and has the honour to inform about the extension of the validity of the certificates of Myanmar seafarers serving onboard during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In this connection, the herewith attached Marine Instruction (1/2022) relating to the further extension of the validity of certificates of Myanmar seafarers serving onboard during the COVID-19 pandemic was issued by the DMA on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

The DMA kindly requests the Secretary General of the IMO to circulate the attached Marine Instruction (1/2022) to the member States of the Organization and avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the IMO the assurances of its highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Ko Ko Naing

Director General (Acting)

Department of Marine Administration



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Date: 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Marine Instruction (1/2022)**

**Further Extension of validity of the STCW Certificates of Myanmar seafarers serving onboard during the COVID-19 pandemic**

**Applicable to:** Myanmar Seafarers, Ship Owners, Shipping Companies, Port State Control, Flag State Authorities, Seafarer Recruitment and Placement (SRPS) and other individual concerned

**Reference:** (1) IMO Circular No.4204/Add.5/Rev.1 on 2 April 2020 and  
(2) MSC.1/Circ.1643 on 25 October 2021.

*Summary*

*This document provides the information relating to further extension of validity of the STCW certificates for Myanmar seafarers, currently serving onboard engaged, who are affected by the challenges caused by COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent outbreak worldwide that has impacted on essential seafarer training and certification services.*

1. The Department of Marine Administration (DMA) is fully aware of that the COVID-19 pandemic has significant impacts on seafarers and the entire global shipping industry. Ongoing COVID-19 restrictions imposed by the governments around the world have created significant hurdles to crew changes and repatriation of seafarers, as well as the current disruption still persists, and therefore, numbers of Myanmar seafarers are necessary to extend their certificates.
2. Impacts of COVID-19 pandemic have triggered the closure of Maritime Training Centres (MTCs), and therefore, the DMA has permitted the MTCs to conduct online courses for revalidation of CoCs and CoPs in order to facilitate seafarers to join ships with valid certificates.
3. The validity of STCW certificates of Myanmar seafarers who are currently serving ONBOARD and engaged on international voyages and near-coastal voyages, that are expiring between the period of 1 April 2022 to 30 June 2022 shall be extended to 30 September 2022 without need to submit application at the DMA.

4. Notwithstanding this extension, all Myanmar seafarers ASHORE are strongly encouraged to apply for revalidation of their CoCs and CoPs upon the completion of online courses or practical trainings for revalidation at the earliest opportunity in accordance with the stipulated requirements for revalidation of respective certificates.

5. The Marine Instruction comes into force on the date of issue.



Dr. Ko Ko Naing

Director General (Acting)

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