

	GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	Document	Circ. 01-003-12
	DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SERVICES AND	Revision	00
	MERCHANT SHIPPING (ADOMS)	Page	1 of 2
	<p style="text-align: center;">Circular 01-003-12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Transitional Provisions relating to the 2010 Amendments to the STCW Convention 1978, as amended</p>	Reference	1. STCW Convention 1978, as amended, Reg. I/15 2. IMO Circular STCW.7/Circ. 16 3. IMO Circular STCW.7/Circ.17 4. ISPS Code, Section 13

Circular letter to:

all companies having registered their ships under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda W.I.;
all ships registered under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda W.I.;
all recognized Antigua and Barbuda Filing Agents

The Antigua and Barbuda Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping (ADOMS) wishes to draw the attention of all above listed parties to Regulation I/15 (Transitional Provisions) relating to the 2010 Amendments to the STCW Convention and Code.

1. Issuance and revalidation of certificates and endorsements issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to 01 January 2012

Until 01 January 2017 ADOMS will continue to revalidate endorsements in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to 01 January 2012.

In order to promote uniform implementation of the 2010 Amendments until its full compliance as of 01 January 2017, Reg. I/15 should be applied as follows:

- a) For seafarers holding certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to 01 January 2012 and who **have not met** the requirements of the 2010 Amendments, the validity of any revalidated certificate **will not be recognized** beyond 01 January 2017;
- b) For seafarers holding certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which applied immediately prior to 01 January 2012 and who **have met** the requirements of the 2010 Amendments, the validity of any revalidated certificate can **be accepted to** extend beyond 01 January 2017;
- c) For seafarers who commenced approved seagoing service, an approved education and training programme or an approved training course **before 01 July 2013**, the validity of any certificate issued **will not be accepted to extend** beyond 01 January 2017, unless the holders meet the requirements of the 2010 Amendments; and
- d) For seafarers who commenced approved seagoing service, an approved education and training programme or an approved training course **after 01 July 2013**, the validity of any certificate issued **will be accepted** beyond 01 January 2017.

Table B-I/2 of the STCW Code, as amended, contains a list of certificates or documentary evidence required under the relevant provisions of the Convention. Please note that the certificates or documentary evidence under the 2010 Amendments have changed in respect of contents and title. However, Administrations may issue certificates and documentary evidence under the provisions of the 1995 STCW amendments with a validity that should not extend beyond 01 January 2017 or new certificates under the provisions of the 2010 Amendments, as appropriate.

Reg. I/15 also apply to the medical certificates issued under Reg. I/9 (Medical Standards). The medical requirements were significantly changed under the 2010 Amendments. Therefore, medical certificates issued in accordance with the 1995 STCW amendments will be accepted until their expiry after which they must be replaced by medical certificates that meet the new requirements.

2. Transitional provisions which do not relate to certification issues

Reg. I/15 apply to the certification of seafarers. Therefore, any amendments that do not directly involve certification of seafarers under Reg. I/15 should be implemented as of 01 January 2012.

The amended requirements of Chapter VIII (Standards regarding watchkeeping) will come into force on 01 January 2012. However, some aspects of seafarer training, for example, Engine-room Resource Management (ERM) or Bridge Resource Management (BRM), are not required to be completed until 01 January 2017.

3. Security-related training provisions

Acknowledging the close entry into force date of the 2010 Amendments, practical difficulties may arise for all seafarers with security-related requirements to obtain necessary certificates and/or the necessary endorsements required in accordance with Reg. VI/6 of the 2010 Amendments. Note that transitional provisions under Section A-VI/6 provide for the recognition of seafarers who commenced an approved seagoing service prior to 01 January 2012 is valid until 01 January 2014.

Taking into account the aforementioned provisions, it would be sufficient to accept compliance under Section 13 of the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code until 01 January 2014, even if a seafarer's documentation with regard to the security-related training in Reg. VI/6 is not in accordance with the 2010 Amendments.

The above listed parties are urged to ensure that the implementation of the 2010 Amendments should commence as soon as possible in order to achieve full compliance as of 01 January 2017.

January 2012

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Antigua and Barbuda W.I.**

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