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## **Countries Recognised by The Bahamas in Accordance with STCW Regulation I/10**

Notice to ship owners, managers, Masters, Approved Nautical Inspectors, Recognised Organisations and surveyors

*This Notice supersedes BMA Information Bulletin No.121*

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### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1. This Marine Notice provides guidance on the countries with which The Bahamas has signed an agreement, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation I/10 of The International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (STCW), to recognise certificates and issue Bahamas Flag State Endorsements (FSE) to a Master, Officer, GMDSS Radio Operator or other applicable seafarer, who are certified by the recognised country.
- 1.2. This Marine Notice should be read in conjunction with IMO MSC.1/Circ. 1163 as revised, Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA) Information Bulletin Nos. 86, 103, 104, 105, 106, 118, 127, 130, 137, 140, 147 and any other BMA Information Bulletins or Notices relating to training and certification of seafarers.

### **2. Application**

- 2.1. This Marine Notice applies to:
  - i. All Bahamian ships to which STCW is applicable;
  - ii. All persons serving or intending to serve on Bahamian ships to which STCW is applicable and whom require a STCW FSE;
  - iii. Companies employing, recruiting or selecting the seafarers noted above, for service on board Bahamian ships.

### **3. General**

- 3.1. The list of countries recognised by The Bahamas is contained in the Annex.

- 3.2. All parties should note that the process for recognition can only be carried out with a country, or the Maritime Administration acting on behalf of a country, that is party to STCW.
- 3.3. A Company seeking to employ a person as noted in 2.1 who has a certificate from a STCW country that is not recognised by The Bahamas should engage with that country.
- 3.4. Notwithstanding that a country is party to STCW, it remains the prerogative of The Bahamas as to whether an STCW recognition agreement will be entered into with a country and if so, the conditions relating to the same.

#### **4. Queries**

- 4.1. Any queries on this Notice may be submitted to [stcw@bahamasmartime.com](mailto:stcw@bahamasmartime.com) or any BMA office.

**ANNEX – List of Countries with which The Bahamas has concluded an agreement for Recognition of Certificates under STCW 1978, as amended, Regulation I/10 (This list is effective: 29 January 2020)**

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| Algeria                                      | Jordan   |
| Argentina                                    | Korea, Republic of                                     |
| Australia                                    | Kuwait   |
| Bangladesh                                   | Latvia   |
| <a href="#">Barbados</a>                     | Liberia  |
| Belgium                                      | Lithuania  |
| Brazil                                       | Malaysia   |
| <a href="#">Brunei</a>                       | Myanmar  |
| Bulgaria                                     | Mexico   |
| Canada                                       | Montenegro   |
| Cape Verde                                   | Morocco  |
| Chile  | Netherlands, including Aruba, Curacao and Sint Maarten |
| China, including Hong Kong                   | New Zealand  |
| Colombia                                     | Nigeria  |
| Croatia                                      | Norway   |
| Cuba   | Pakistan   |
| Cyprus                                       | Panama   |
| Czech Republic                               | Papua New Guinea                                       |
| Denmark, including Faroe Islands             | Peru   |
| <a href="#">The Commonwealth of Dominica</a> | Philippines  |
| Ecuador                                      | Poland   |
| Egypt  | Portugal   |
| Estonia                                      | Romania  |
| Ethiopia                                     | Russia   |
| Finland                                      | Serbia   |
| France                                       | Singapore  |
| Germany                                      | Slovak Republic  |
| Georgia                                      | Slovenia   |
| Ghana  | South Africa   |
| Greece                                       | Spain  |
| Hong Kong                                    | Sri Lanka  |
| Honduras*                                    | Sweden   |
| Hungary                                      | Switzerland  |
| Iceland                                      | Thailand   |
| India  | Turkey   |
| Indonesia                                    | Ukraine  |
| Ireland                                      | United Kingdom   |
| Israel                                       | Uruguay  |
| Italy  | United States of America                               |
| Jamaica                                      | Vanuatu  |
| Japan  | Venezuela  |
|  | Vietnam  |

*\* Certificates of Proficiency accepted. Certificates of Competency are not recognised.*

**Revision History**

Version	Description of Revision
1.0	First Issue
2.0	Annex - addition of Barbados and Dominica. Removal of Kuwait and Latvia
2.1	Annex – Dominica renamed The Commonwealth of Dominica
2.2	Annex – addition of Kuwait and Latvia