

**Circular 228/2020**

**To:** Owners, Managers, Fleet Managers, Deputy Registrars, Recognised Organisations, Surveyors and other interested parties.

**Subject:** COVID-19 – Format of documentation on board Cook Islands' Vessels

**Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Summary**

With reference to the restrictions put in place in several countries following the the COVID-19 outbreak, which have limited the access to port areas and in some instances have disrupted mail delivery and courier services, Maritime Cook Islands (MCI) have experienced an increasing difficulty to deliver onboard its registered vessels original MCI documents and certificates. Therefore, in consideration of the exceptional circumstances, Maritime Cook Islands will allow **temporarily** for copies of certificates and other official MCI documents to be kept onboard **instead of originals**.

**This circular applies to all certificates and official documents issued by MCI after 20 March 2020.**

MCI will continue working with Owners and Manager to make sure **pdf scanned copies** of the official documents are duly printed and kept on board and to ensure that the original certificates and documents are delivered onboard as soon as possible.

Authorities can address enquiries about the validity of any pdf/printed copy of MCI official documents to [fleet@maritimecookislands.com](mailto:fleet@maritimecookislands.com) and to [technical@maritimecookislands.com](mailto:technical@maritimecookislands.com)

**A copy of this circular must be placed in the ships' documents for Authorities prompt reference.**

Maritime Cook Islands might amend or cancel this circular at any time taking into consideration any change related to COVID-19 restrictions and considerations.