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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@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:stcw@bahamasmaritime.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)**

Algeria	Jordan
Argentina	Korea, Republic of
Australia	Kuwait
Bangladesh	Latvia
Barbados	Liberia
Belgium	Lithuania
Brazil	Malaysia
Brunei	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
The Commonwealth of Dominica	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 Kuwat and Latvia