



SUBJECT: FAL Convention (1965) [as amended] Electronic Certification

REFERENCE:

- a) *Information Notice 2018-007 Required On-Board Documentation and (Electronic) Record Keeping*
- b) *ILO Circular 2018-003 Maritime Labour Convention (2006) Seafarer's Employment Agreements (SEA)*
- c) *Convention on the Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic (FAL) 1965*
- d) [FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2](#) *Guidelines for the use of electronic certificates*
- e) *Antigua and Barbuda Merchant Shipping Act (MSA) 2006 and associated Regulations*
- f) *Individual Agreements on the Delegation of Authority by ADOMS to relevant Organizations*

TO: Ship-owners, operators, masters and officers of Antigua and Barbuda flagged ships, and recognized organizations

1. PURPOSE

This Circular provides all ADOMS Clients and relevant Stakeholders with information on the validity and use of electronic certificates in respect to both statutory- and non-statutory certification, issued by Recognized Organizations (ROs) and Recognized Security Organizations (RSOs) for and on behalf of the Administration.

2. APPLICATION

This Circular applies to all Antigua and Barbuda flagged Ships

3. BACKGROUND

The International Convention on the Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic (FAL) 1965, as amended, that has been acceded to by Antigua and Barbuda in 2011 and entered into force on the 20th of August 2013, aims at facilitating regulatory and documentary requirements for internationally trading vessels and their operators. FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2 provides guidelines for the implementation of electronic certification

4. OBLIGATIONS AND GUIDANCE/RESPONSIBILITIES

1. ADOMS does not have a particular/proprietary format or a particular set of requirements in respect of *Electronic Certification*.
2. All organizations to which ADOMS has delegated the relevant authority in respect of certification are deemed authorized to provide their services also by issuing electronic certificates, in line with all applicable international requirements and as

3. deemed appropriate according to relevant non-mandatory instruments and guidelines.
4. The issuing of electronic certificates, subject to the referred provisions, by any of the above mentioned organizations is deemed as duly authorized by the existing agreements referring to certification, in combination with this circular.

Issued by

Antigua and Barbuda
Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping
(ADOMS) St. John's