



SUBJECT: Validation of Sea time

REFERENCE:

- a) *Merchant Shipping Act 2006 (as amended)*
- b) *Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention, 2006) Regulations 2012*

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

1. INTRODUCTION

This Information Notice provides information on how the requirement under the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 to provide a record of employment to facilitate the acquisition of further work or to satisfy the sea-service requirement for upgrading or promotion, is fulfilled by the Antigua and Barbuda Maritime Administration.

2. SUBJECT

1. Discharge book

1. An Antigua and Barbuda Seafarer's Book may be used as the record of employment on board Antigua and Barbuda flagged vessel.
2. In the event that a seafarer does not hold an Antigua and Barbuda Seafarer's Record Book, or wishes the record to be made elsewhere, it may be entered in a seaman's record book from another administration, if held by the seafarer, or may be contained in a certificate of discharge issued by the Master.

2. Validation of Sea Time

1. Under Antigua and Barbuda Merchant Shipping law, there is no statutory requirement for an Antigua and Barbuda Consul, or for the Flag State Administration in Antigua and Barbuda, to validate the sea service of any seafarer serving on an Antigua and Barbuda flagged vessel. This applies to all seafarers on all Antigua and Barbuda flagged vessels, irrespective of the seafarer's nationality. The entry made in the Discharge Book, or another Discharge document, by the master of the vessel, fulfils the requirements of Antigua and Barbuda law.
2. In these circumstances, it is regretted that irrespective of the legal requirements of other States, the Antigua and Barbuda Consul or the Flag State Administration are unable to accede to requests to validate sea time.

3. Italian Seafarers requesting validation of sea time

1. Italian seafarers who serve on board an Antigua and Barbuda flagged vessel may choose to have the sea service times entered into their national seafarers' record of employment or discharge books. However, confirmation by an Antigua and Barbuda Consul or the Flag State Administration of records of employment will not be done as this is not required by our laws.
2. A master of a ship and/or the company employing the seafarer are in a position to attest that the seafarer was actually serving on board a ship.

Issued by

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