



Montenegro

Ministry of Transport and Maritime Affairs  
Directorate for maritime transport and inland navigation

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## **DECISION ON CONDUCTING TEMPORARY MEASURES CAUSED BY COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Due to the situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Transport and Maritime Affairs of Montenegro (hereinafter: the Ministry) has decided to take temporary measures for seafarers who are unable to recover all the documents they need to carry out their duties aboard ships.

The provisional measures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which may be considered as Force Majeure, relate to the general extension of the validity of seafarers' identity documents to enable them to work legally on board.

### **1. EXTENSION OF VALIDATION OF MARITIME DOCUMENTS AFTER EXPIRY DATE**

#### **1.1 Certificate of Competency (CoC) and Certificate of Proficiency (CoP)**

The Ministry has decided to grant the validity of the Montenegrin Certificates of Competency (CoC) and Certificates of Proficiency (CoP) which expire before 20 June 2020, additional validity up to 3 (three) months. Seafarers whose authorization have expired or will expire during this period will not have to apply for the extension in question.

#### **1.2. Seafarer's Health Certificates**

Regarding Temporary Measures Caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic, which may be considered as a Force Majeure Regarding a Seafarer's Certificate of Health, the Ministry has decided to apply the emergency provisions permitted by regulation I/9 of the STCW Convention of 1978, as amended by regulation 1.2. MLC 2006 Convention as amended. Based on the above, the Ministry permits a seafarer to work on a ship, provided that the seafarer holds a seafarer's health certificate with an expiry date to which a period of not more than 3 (three) months is added.

### **2. EXTENSION OF THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT VALIDITY WITH SHIPPING OPERATORS OR COMPANIES**

Due to difficult conditions and inability to organize voluntary return (repatriation) of a seafarer to Montenegro, shipping operators or companies, it is allowed to extend the validity

of the employment contract for a maximum of 3 (three) months, with the consent of the seafarer with the proposed extension period.

In such situations, it is necessary to execute an additional contract for the work of the shipping company, i.e. the company with the seafarer under the same conditions as in the basic contract.

### 3. NOTICE

The Ministry will notify all interested organizations (IMO, ILO, EMSA and others) of the interim measures taken due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These measures will also be published on the official website of the Ministry: [www.msp.gov.me](http://www.msp.gov.me)

### CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For all additional clarifications you may contact the email address: [kabinet@msp.gov.me](mailto:kabinet@msp.gov.me)



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