

Merchant Marine Circular

Panama Maritime Authority
General Directorate of Merchant Marine
Control and Compliance Department

MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-271

- To:** Parties, Administrations, Port State Control Authorities, Recognized Organizations (RO's), Ship-owners/Operators, Seafarers, Legal Representatives, Authorized Maritime Training Centers, Authorized Medical Practitioners, Privative Consulates of Merchant Marine of the Republic of Panama, Auxiliary Register Offices, Authorized Offices, Brokers, Departments of the General Directorate of Seafarers, Regional Documentation Offices of the Panama Maritime Authority and users of the Panama Ship Registry.
- Subject:** Adoption and Regulation of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC 2006, as amended).
- Reference:** a) Law No. 2 of January 6, 2009,
b) Executive Decree No. 86 of February, 22, 2013,
c) Executive Decree No. 160 of March 3, 2021,
d) Executive Decree No. 26 of March 24, 2025,
e) Resolution ADM No. 075-2019 of May 9, 2019,
f) Resolution ADM No. 095-2020 of July 27, 2020 and
g) Resolution ADM No. 038-2023 of January 27, 2023.
h) Circular No. DGGM-013 (**Only as recommendation**).

1. This Merchant Marine Circular replaces the **MMC-227** and **MMC-253**.

2. Purpose

- 2.1. The purpose of this Circular is to communicate to the users of Panamanian Registry, the regulations of the Republic of Panama and the Panama Maritime Authority (PMA) by means of which the provisions of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006, as amended), including 2014, 2016, 2018 and 2022 Amendments, have been adopted and regulated.

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3. Scope

- 3.1. This Merchant Marine Circular applies to seafarers who are employed, engaged or work in any capacity on board a Panamanian flag ship to which the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006, as amended) applies.
4. The regulations of the Republic of Panama and the PMA by means of which the provisions of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended, have been adopted and regulated, are detailed below:
- 4.1. [Law No. 2 of January 6, 2009](#): by which the Republic of Panama adopted the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006, as amended).
- 4.2. [Executive Decree No. 86 of February 22, 2013](#): by which the Republic of Panama regulates the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006, as amended).
- 4.2.1. [Executive Decree No. 160 of March 3, 2021](#): by which articles are modified and added to the Executive Decree No. 86 of February 22, 2013.
- 4.2.2. [Executive Decree No. 26 of March 24, 2025](#): by which articles are modified and added to the Executive Decree No. 86 of February 22, 2013.
- 4.3. [Resolution ADM No. 075-2019 of May 9, 2019](#): by which the PMA adopts the 2014 and 2016 Amendments to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006, as amended).
- 4.4. [Resolution ADM No. 095-2020 of July 27, 2020](#): by which the PMA adopts the 2018 Amendments to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC 2006, as amended).
- 4.5. [Resolution ADM No. 038-2023 of January 27, 2023](#): by which the PMA adopts the 2022 Amendments to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006, as amended).

July, 2025 – The reference is modified and paragraph # 4.2.2. is added.

February, 2024 – The reference f) and paragraph 4.5 were modified.

December, 2023 – The references and paragraphs 1 and 2 were modified. Paragraphs # 3 and 4 were added.



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June, 2021 – Change in the paragraph # 1 and # 2, paragraph # 3 was deleted, and the hyperlinks of new paragraph # 2 were enabled.

May, 2013 – Modification of contact points on Point 3 and change of information below.

May, 2013 – Inside hyperlink, correction of Article 176.

April, 2013 – Change of contact Points below

March, 2013 – Inside hyperlink, Article 139, elimination of “**and a shower**”.

March, 2013.

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Merchant Marine Circular or any other request should be forward to:

Maritime Labour Affairs Department
General Directorate of Seafarers
Maritime Labour Section
General Directorate of Merchant Marine
Panama Maritime Authority

Phone: (507) 501-5059 / 5060 / 5210 / 5067; (507) 501-4241 in case of inquiries related to ship's certificates and financial securities

E-mail: labormar@amp.gob.pa; mlc@segumar.com (in case of inquiries related to ship's certificates and financial securities)

Website: <https://panamashipregistry.com/circulars/>