

4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT  
LONDON SE1 7SR  
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

Circular Letter No.4385/Add.2  
12 August 2022

To: All IMO Members  
Intergovernmental organizations  
Non-governmental organizations in consultative status

Subject: **Communication from the Government of the Republic of Fiji**

The Government of the Republic of Fiji has sent the attached communication, dated 10 August 2022, with the request that it be circulated by the Organization.

\*\*\*





Ref No: MS12.1/22/13

10<sup>th</sup> August 2022

The Secretary General- Mr Kitack Lim  
International Maritime Organization  
4 Albert Embankment  
London SE17SR  
United Kingdom

Your Excellency,

**RE: TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY FOR FIJI REGISTERED SEAFARERS**

The Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji presents its compliments to the International Maritime Organization and kindly request that the information as annexed "A" be circulated to all member states.

In consideration of the inconvenience caused by the global pandemic, MSAF has taken a pragmatic approach in line with the Fijian Government post COVID-19 recovery strategy and to support the Fiji registered seafarers and the local maritime shipping industry. In this regard, MSAF has granted the temporary extension of validity of the certificate of competencies and endorsements for Fiji registered seafarers pursuant to the attached information **Marine Notice 06/22**. The temporary extension of validity will end by 10 November 2022.

We thank you in advance and assure the IMO our highest consideration.

Yours sincerely

**David Kolitagane**  
**EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN**

**CENTRAL & EASTERN DIVISION**  
414 Victoria Parade, Kadavu Hse, Level 4  
P.O. Box 326 Suva  
Tel:(679) 331 5266  
Fax: (679) 330 3251/ (679) 331 3127

**NORTHERN DIVISION**  
Labasa Government Wharf  
P.O. Box 3704, Labasa  
Tel:(679) 881 1177  
Fax: (679) 881 1177  
[www.msaf.com.fj](http://www.msaf.com.fj)

**WESTERN DIVISION**  
11 Tui Street, Lautoka  
P.O. Box 316, Lautoka  
Tel:(679) 666 1229  
Fax: (679) 666 7433

"A"



## MARINE NOTICE

06/2022

### EXTENSION OF STCW CERTIFICATION FOR FIJIAN SEAFARERS

1. The COVID-19 pandemic, has severely affected the conduct of trainings, revalidation of certificates, and ship to shore interactions including effecting crew changes.  
This extension is in line with the Fijian Government post Covid-19 recovery strategy and to support our seafarers and local maritime shipping industry.
2. In response thereto, the Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji (MSAF) adopts IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.5/Rev.1 dated 02 April 2020 which encourages the issuing Administration and the Port State Control authorities to take a pragmatic and practical approach with regard to the extension of the validity of seafarer's certificates and endorsements, as strictly necessary, in accordance with the STCW Convention, 1978 as amended.
3. In view thereof, the following guidelines relative to the extension of the validity of the STCW certificates are hereby issued.
  - (a) All Port States, Ship Owners, Operators, Ship Agents, Pilots, Masters and crews are hereby advised that the Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji (MSAF) is further extending the duration of the following Maritime Documents:
    - Standards of Training Certification and Watch-keeping (STCW) certificates;
    - STCW Short Courses; and
    - Medical Certificates
  - (b) All Fiji STCW certificates, inclusive of relevant endorsements expired within the period stated on Marine Notice 14/2021, Marine Notice 26/2021, Marine Notice 34/2021 and Marine Notice 03/2022 will be further extended to 10 November, 2022.
  - (c) The concerned licensed manning agencies and shipping companies are required to ensure that the crew are compliant with the above-mentioned STCW requirements, and are hereby directed to submit to MSAF the list of their crew members whose validity of STCW certificates have been extended pursuant to this Marine Notice (**refer Attachment - template**).
4. All seafarers are hereby encouraged to revalidate their Certificates of Competency (COC) and Certificates of Proficiencies (COP) after completing their face to face courses, as applicable to their certificate at the earliest opportunity in accordance with the standard requirements for revalidation. In which case, the 5 year validity date shall be taken from the original expiration date of the previous certificate.
5. **This Notice supersedes and revokes Marine Notice 03/2022.**
6. For further information, please contact Joseph Williame (Manager Qualification & Licensing) on email: [jwilliame@msaf.com.fj](mailto:jwilliame@msaf.com.fj) or Mobile No. 9904189.

  
**SESONU KOMAISOSO**  
**MANAGER SHIPS INSPECTION**  
Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji  
Level 4, Kadavu House, Victoria Parade

10 August 2022

XX/XX/2022

The Chief Executive Officer  
Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji

Dear Sir

Hereunder is/are the name(s) of the crew member(s) of **(Name of Company)** whose Certificate of Competency/ Certificate of Proficiency (Coc/CoP) have been extended pursuant to MSAF Marine Notice 06/2022 dated 10 August 2022.

Name of Seafarer	CoC/CoP Number	Name of Ship	Name of Ship Owner/ Operator	Crew Exchange Date for Seafarer

For your information and reference

\_\_\_\_\_

**(Name and Signature of the Authorized Official and Company Stamp)**

\_\_\_\_\_