

Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Seafarer Recruitment and Placement Services) Regulations 2014

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No. S 178

**MERCHANT SHIPPING
(MARITIME LABOUR CONVENTION) ACT 2014
(ACT 6 OF 2014)**

**MERCHANT SHIPPING (MARITIME LABOUR
CONVENTION) (SEAFARER RECRUITMENT AND
PLACEMENT SERVICES) REGULATIONS 2014**

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 82 of the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) Act 2014, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, with the approval of the Minister for Transport, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Seafarer Recruitment and Placement Services) Regulations 2014 and shall come into operation on 1st April 2014.

Definitions

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —

“certificate of authorisation” means the certificate of authorisation to operate a seafarer recruitment and placement service in Singapore which is issued by the Director under regulation 4(2);

“register” means the register referred to in regulation 8 of seafarers recruited or placed.

Application

3. These Regulations shall apply to —

- (a) every seafarer recruitment and placement service operated in, or provided from, Singapore; and
- (b) every shipowner of a Singapore ship ordinarily engaged in commercial activities, including such a shipowner who engages seafarer recruitment and placement services operated in, or provided from, a country outside Singapore.

Approval from Director

4.—(1) A person may apply in such manner as may be determined by the Director for authorisation by the Director under section 12(1) of the Act to operate a seafarer recruitment and placement service in Singapore.

(2) If the Director is satisfied that the applicant is a fit and proper person to operate a seafarer recruitment and placement service, the Director shall, upon payment of the prescribed fee, issue a certificate of authorisation to him.

(3) Subject to paragraph (4), the certificate of authorisation shall be valid for such period as may be specified in the certificate, but that must not exceed 3 years.

(4) If a seafarer recruitment and placement service holds a licence granted under the Employment Agencies Act (Cap. 92), the certificate of authorisation shall also expire on the date of expiry of that licence.

Preventing or deterring seafarer employment

5. A seafarer recruitment and placement service shall not use any means, mechanism or list in order to prevent or deter a seafarer from gaining employment for which he is qualified.

Fees and costs of seafarer recruitment and placement services

6.—(1) No fee or other charge for seafarer recruitment or placement or for providing employment shall be borne, directly or indirectly, by a seafarer, except for the costs of obtaining the following:

- (a) the seafarer's national statutory medical certificate;
- (b) the national seafarer's book; and
- (c) the seafarer's passport or other similar personal travel document but not including the cost of visas, which shall be borne by the shipowner.

(2) A seafarer recruitment and placement service shall publish any costs which a seafarer will be expected to bear in the recruitment process.