

**Circular 99 / 2015**

**To: Vessel Owners, Managers, Masters, Deputy Registrars and Other Interested Parties**

**Subject: Reminder The Nairobi Wreck Removal Convention Comes Into Force 14 April 2015**

**Date: 14 April 2015**

### **Summary**

#### **Nairobi International Convention on removal of Wrecks, 2007**

The Cook Islands has acceded to the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007 which will enter into force on the 14th April 2015.

The Convention provides a strict liability, compensation and compulsory insurance regime for member States affected by wrecked and sunken vessels. Under the Convention, the registered owner of a wrecked ship is liable for locating, marking and removing a wreck deemed to be a hazard in a State's Convention area.

The Convention Area is deemed to be the EEZ of the Member State and in some cases, States have opted to extend the convention area to include their territorial sea.

A Blue Card issued by a Cook Islands Approved P&I Insurer (a list of approved P&I Insurers can be found at <http://maritimecookislands.com/index.php/approved-pai-clubs?phpMyAdmin=468c4e449b59t7643f2c9>), which can be verified, will be evidence of insurance cover being in place and will be used as the basis for the Convention Certificate issuance by a State party. The Convention certificate must be carried on board at all times.

#### **What vessel types need to apply?**

All ships of 300GT and greater, meaning a seagoing vessel of any type whatsoever and includes hydrofoil boats, private and commercial yachts, fishing vessels, barges, tugs, air-cushion vehicles, submersibles, floating craft and floating platforms, **except** when such platforms are on location engaged in the exploration, exploitation or production of seabed mineral resources.

#### **How do I apply?**

If your vessel/s is associated with a Cook Islands Deputy Registrar, the DR will contact you with their unique link which you should use to get to the application page. If your vessel is not associated with a DR, go to <https://secure.maritimecookislands.com/wreck/application.php> and follow instructions.

### Failure to apply for a Nairobi Wreck Removal Convention Certificate

Cook Islands vessels that fail to apply for the certification will be issued with a Notice of Cancellation on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2015 allowing the vessel a period of 30 days to become compliant. If the vessel is not compliant by the end of the 30 day period, Maritime Cook Islands will take actions to remove the vessel from the register.

Vessels must not transit the EEZ of any state party without a valid NWRC Certificate. Any Cook Islands flagged vessel that is detained by a State party for failure to carry a NWRC Certificate will be issued an Infringement Notice and subject to a fine up to 30,000 USD and a maximum 5,000 USD for each day there after.

### FAQ

For more information on state parties, please click on the following link <http://www.maritimecookislands.com/faq.html>

For all wreck removal convention enquiries, please contact Ms Katrina Brown [wrecks@maritimecookislands.com](mailto:wrecks@maritimecookislands.com).  
Alternatively you may contact Maritime Cook Islands Head Office at Phone: +682 23848 Fax: +682 23846

For any payment queries, please contact [accounts@maritimecookislands.com](mailto:accounts@maritimecookislands.com)