



Directorate-General of Seafarers

Panama, December 1, 2020.  
Note No. DGGM-ALM-436-2020.

**Ladies and gentlemen**

**Parties, Administrations, Port Control State Authorities, Recognized Organizations (ROs), Ship Owners / Operators, Seafarers, Resident Agents of Panama-Flagged Vessels, Maritime Training Centers, Private Merchant Marine Consulates, Inspectors, Authorized Offices, Departments / Areas / Units / Regional Documentation Offices of the Panama Maritime Authority.**

Dear ladies and gentlemen:

The purpose of this missive is to advise you that the Directorate-General of Seafarers of the Panama Maritime Authority has adopted Resolution No. ADM-178-2020 of November 19, 2020, which sets forth the procedure for the recognition of physicians qualified to issue medical certificates of seafarers in the Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Indonesia, Republic of India, People's Republic of China, Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Republic of the Myanmar Union and Republic of Korea (South Korea).

As provided by *article fourteen* of Resolution No. ADM-178-2020, which states that only medical certificates issued through an external online database software provider authorized by the Panama Maritime Authority to process seafarers' certificates of competency will be accepted, we hereby give you the schedule by the implementation date of the medical certificate issuance process through digital platforms in the above-mentioned countries.

Deadline from which only medical certificates issued through an authorized third-party software provider will be accepted (if the medical certificates submitted do not come from PMA-authorized software they will be deemed deficient for certificate of competency evaluation purposes).	INDIA	<b>January 1, 2021</b>
	INDONESIA	<b>January 1, 2021</b>
	CHINA	<b>January 15, 2021</b>
	VIETNAM	<b>January 15, 2021</b>
	MYANMAR	<b>January 15, 2021</b>
	SOUTH KOREA	<b>January 15, 2021</b>




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Medical certificates issued from the Republic of Indonesia, Republic of India, People's Republic of China, Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Republic of Korea (South Korea), regardless of the seafarers' nationality, must be issued by recognized physicians and through software vendors authorized by the Panama Maritime Administration.

As for the Republic of the Philippines, the process of issuing medical certificates through an external online database software provider has been implemented since 2017 and will continue to function as it has until now.

Sincerely,



**ENG. ISABEL VALENCIA M.**  
Director-General in charge

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