

**The Republic of Palau**  
**Palau International Ship Registry**  
*“The Reliable Flag to Prosperity”*

**MARINE NOTICE 12-006 CIVIL LIABILITY FOR BUNKER OIL POLLUTION DAMAGE 2001**

To: ALL SHIPOWNERS, MANAGERS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF SHIPS FLYING UNDER THE PALAU FLAG

Subject: CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON CIVIL LIABILITY FOR BUNKER OIL POLLUTION DAMAGE, 2001

1. Objective

- 1.1 The purpose of this notice is to provide information on the requirements and procedures to obtain the Bunker Convention Certificate.

2. Reference

- 2.1 The Bunker Convention was adopted to ensure that adequate, prompt and effective compensation is available to persons who suffer pollution damaged caused by spills of bunker oil on board or originating from a ship. The Bunker Convention requires the maintenance of compulsory insurance or financial security, the proof of such coverage shall be through certification, which will be referred as Bunker Convention Certificate or BCC.

3. Applicability

- 3.1 The Bunker Convention applies to all ships having 1000 GRT or greater navigating from or to any port of the Republic of Palau or from any port of a State Party.
- 3.2 The Convention does not apply to warships, naval auxiliary or other ships owned or operated by the State and used for the time being, only on Government non commercial service.

#### 4. Requirements

- 4.1 The registered owner of a vessel under the Republic of Palau shall be required to maintain insurance or other financial security, such as the guarantee of a bank or similar financial institution, to cover the liability of the registered owner for pollution damage in an amount equal to the limits of liability under an applicable national or international limitation regime, but in all cases, not exceeding an amount calculated in accordance with the Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims, 1976, as amended.
- 4.2 The Republic of Palau will issue a Bunker Convention Certificate as evidence that such insurance is in place and evidence has been provided to this effect.

#### 5. Procedures for obtaining Bunker Convention Certificate

- 5.1 Owner or Owner's representative should forward to the Palau International Ship Registry the following documents in order to obtain Bunker Convention Certificate:
  - 5.1.1 Blue Card issued by an Approved P&I Company. The list of the approved P&I is provided in Annex I. Electronic format of the Blue Card is here accepted. **The Blue Card should be addressed to this Maritime Administration at all times.**
  - 5.1.2 Application for the issuance of the Bunker Convention Certificate.
  - 5.1.3 Valid Certificate of Registry (applicable if the subject vessel is registered under the Flag of a Non-State Member of the Convention).
  - 5.1.4 Proof of Payment for the Bunker Convention Certificate
- 5.2 Upon the receipt of the above, the Palau International Ship Registry will issue the Bunker Convention Certificate which will remain valid for the duration of the Blue Card. All the information can be sent directly in electronic format.
- 5.3 The time bar for the issuance of the Bunker Convention is one business day since all the requirements listed in section 5.1 are duly fulfilled and submitted to this Maritime Administration or to an official who is authorized to act for and on behalf of the Maritime Administrator.
- 5.4 The Palau International Ship Registry can issue Bunker Convention Certificates to vessels that are not registered under a State Member of the Convention. As mentioned in section 5.1.3., a valid Certificate of Registry is an additional requirement in this case.

- 5.5 The Bunker Convention Certificate shall contain the following particulars:
- .1 name of ship;
  - .2 IMO ship identification number
  - .3 distinctive number or letters;
  - .4 port of registry;
  - .5.name and principal place of business of the registered owner;
  - .6 type of security;
  - .7 duration of security, not longer than the period of validity of the insurance or other security;
  - .8 name and principal place of business of insurer or other person giving security and,
  - .9 refers to a unique Authorization Number for the said Bunker Convention Certificate.
- 5.6 The Bunker Convention Certificate must be issued to each vessel at the Initial Registration or shortly thereafter providing the required security. The registered owner must renew the certification annually by the date of the expiration of the Blue Card validity.
- 5.7 The Bunker Convention Certificate must be carried on board the ship at all times as per the Convention's provisions. The Palau Maritime Administration will not permit a ship under the Republic's flag to which the Bunker Convention applies to operate at any time, unless a certificate has been issued to this effect.

## 6. Approved P&I Clubs

- 6.1 Blue Card provided from a P&I Club which is a member of the International Group of P&I Clubs, is assumed accepted and the insurance is deemed sufficient.
- 6.2 Blue Card provided from a P&I Club which is not a member of the International Group of P&I Clubs, or is not included in the list of Approved P&I Clubs as stated in Annex I, will be subject to review and approval by this Maritime Administration. A written application for verification and accreditation must be submitted to the contact provided in section 7.

## 7. Contacts and Additional Information:

- 7.1 To request additional information or to submit a request for application, or to provide information for verification and accreditation of a P&I Club which is not member of the International Group of P&I Clubs, please contact:

**The Palau International Ship Registry**  
**Department: Maritime Safety and Environment Protection**  
**PIC: Mrs. Marisabel Arauz Park**  
**Email: [technical@palaushipregistry.com](mailto:technical@palaushipregistry.com)**  
**Tel: +1 504-460-9487**