



The International  
Chamber of Shipping

17 April 2020



The International  
Transport Workers  
Federation

To Shipping Company HR Personnel  
Manning Agents  
Vessel Masters

Facilitation Certificates for International Transport Worker – Seafarer

Dear Sir/ Madam,

As we are sure you appreciate, seafarers undertake a hugely important service every day in ensuring the delivery of vital supplies around the world - even more so in these unprecedented times. We understand however, given the severe restrictions in travel that are currently in place, that seafarers can find it difficult to transit between their home countries and the ship. In order to help facilitate this the International Chamber of Shipping and the International Transport Workers Federation have produced a draft template that can be completed and shown to officials.

We recommend that your company uses this template which, once fully completed and on company headed paper, should be given to affected seafarers.

The United Nations bodies, namely the International Labour Organization and the International Maritime Organization, along with the European Commission, have stated that Seafarers should be officially recognized as key workers and granted exemptions from travel restrictions so they can join and leave their ships and return home without impediment, while complying with infection control.

It is important for companies to be able to ask State representatives to recognize the need of the highly globalized shipping industry, with its multinational workforce, to smoothly undertake crew changes. This will enable ships to continue to operate and to ensure the swift embarkation, disembarkation and repatriation of crew members.

The attached letter certifies that a seafarer should be allowed free passage to travel between their home and their vessel and has participated in a medical screening. It will need to be completed with the company providing the following details :-

Seafarer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Seafarer's Date Of Birth \_\_\_\_\_(Type here)

Passport Number \_\_\_\_\_

\*Seafarer's book number \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable)

\*Seafarer's Identity Document Number \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable)

Position on Board Ship \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Ship Name \_\_\_\_\_

Ship IMO Number \_\_\_\_\_

Is joining the ship in (name of port) \_\_\_\_\_

Is leaving the ship in (name of port) \_\_\_\_\_

Yours faithfully,

Natalie Shaw  
Director Employment Affairs

ICS

Fabrizio Barcellona  
Assistant Secretary  
Seafarers' Section  
ITF

To Whom this might concern

Date

Dear Sir/ Madam,

**CERTIFICATE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT WORKER – SEAFARER**

I am writing for your assistance in ensuring that we can continue to supply the goods on which we all rely in our everyday lives and that you will allow the seafarer whose details are set out below to transit between their home country and their ship and vice versa.

In these unprecedented circumstances, it is imperative to ensure that the flow of essential goods, energy, food, medicines and many other products is not disrupted by measures impeding the safe and efficient movement of ships and the seafarers who operate them. Therefore the United Nations bodies, namely the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO), along with the European Commission, have stated that Seafarers should be officially recognized as key workers and granted exemptions from travel restrictions so they can join and leave their ships and return home without impediment, while complying with infection control.

It is important for State representatives and relevant authorities to recognize the need of the highly globalized shipping industry, with its multinational workforce, to smoothly undertake crew changes around the world, to enable ships to continue to operate and to enable the swift embarkation, disembarkation and repatriation of crew members.

This letter certifies that this seafarer should be allowed free passage to travel between their home and their vessel and has participated in a medical screening.

Seafarer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Number \_\_\_\_\_

\*Seaman's Book Number \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable)

\*Seafarer's Identity Document Number \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable)

Position on board ship \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Ship Name \_\_\_\_\_

Ship IMO Number \_\_\_\_\_

[Type here]

Is joining the ship in (name of port) \_\_\_\_\_(as applicable)

Is leaving the ship in (name of port) \_\_\_\_\_(as applicable)

Yours faithfully,

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

This letter is supported by



International  
Chamber of Shipping



International  
Transport Workers  
Federation

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<sup>i</sup> This document is a modified copy of Annex 3 of the Communication of the European Commission of 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 on the implementation of the Green Lanes under the Guidelines for border management measures to protect health and to ensure the availability of goods and essential services:

[https://ec.europa.eu/transport/sites/transport/files/legislation/2020-03-23-communication-green-lanes\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/transport/sites/transport/files/legislation/2020-03-23-communication-green-lanes_en.pdf)

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