# UNDERTAKING BETWEEN JORDAN MARITIME COMMISSION

AND THE DIRECTORATE-GENERAL MARITIME TRANSPORT OF THE FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE OF MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT OF BELGIUM CONCERNING THE RECOGNITION OF THE TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF SEAFARERS FROM JORDAN., FOR SERVICE ON BELGIAN FLAGGED VESSELS

The Directorate-general Maritime Transport of the Federal Public Service of Mobility and Transport of Belgium and the Jordan Maritime Commission

ACTING in accordance with Regulation 1/10 of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 as amended;

**RECOGNIZING** the mutual interest of implementing an agreement concerning the recognition of the training for seafarers;

HAVING REGARD to the guidance on arrangements between Parties to allow for recognition of certificates under the above mentioned convention approved by the Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organization at its ninety-first session in November 2012 (MSC.1/Circ.1450);

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that Jordan figures on the list of countries found by the International Maritime Organization to give full and complete effect to the relevant provisions of the STCW Convention (MSC.1/Circ.1163 as revised) and is recognized by the European Commission with Decision OJ L347 published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 15.12.2012;

The Directorate-general Maritime Transport of the Federal Public Service of Mobility and Transport of Belgium (hereinafter referred to as "Administration") and Jordan Maritime Commission (hereinafter referred to as "certificate-issuing Party"), for the purpose of implementing the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (hereinafter referred to as the "STCW Convention"), in particular with respect to the recognition, by the Administration, of certificates of competency, training documentary evidence, GMDSS and medical fitness certificates for seafarers (hereinafter referred to as "certificates") issued by the certificate-issuing Party in accordance with the STCW Convention and for the purpose of cooperation between the two Parties in the training, certification and management of seafarers, have agreed as follows:

### Article 1. Officials responsible for implementing the Undertaking

1. The officials designated to be directly responsible for implementing this Undertaking and for liaison purposes between the two Parties are as follows:

Jordan Maritime Commission

The Directorate-general Maritime Transport of the Federal Public Service of Mobility and Transport of Belgium

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- 2. The official of the certificate-issuing Party and the official of the Administration may designate one or more persons to perform on their behalf the functions referred to in articles 5 and 6 of this Undertaking.
- 3. The official of the Administration and the official of the certificate-issuing Party shall each communicate to the other the list of the persons they designated in accordance with point 2.

#### Article 2. Application

This Undertaking shall be applicable with respect to seafarers holding certificates issued by or under the authority of the certificate-issuing Party, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the STCW Convention and serving on board ships flying the flag of Belgium.

### Article 3. Inspection of facilities and review of procedures

- 1. The Administration may in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 1/10 of the STCW Convention subject to the consent of the certificate-issuing Party, visit the facilities, observe the procedures or review the policies which have been approved or employed by the certificate-issuing Party for meeting the requirements of the STCW Convention regarding:
  - standards of competence;
  - · training;
  - the issue, endorsement, revalidation and revocation of certificates;
  - · record-keeping:
  - medical standards;
  - quality standards;
  - · communication and response process to requests for verifications.

- 2. When requesting a visit, the Administration will observe the following conditions:
  - a request to visit facilities will be forwarded in writing, by tealeaf or by email, by the official of the Administration, to the official of the certificate issuing Party at least thirty (30) days before the intended date of visit;
  - the request will list the motives which, in the view of the Administration, make it necessary to carry out a visit;
  - the request will name the specific facility or facilities which the Administration intends to visit;
  - the request will contain the names of the officials taking part in the visit and their position in the Administration;
  - the Administration shall communicate the results of any evaluation carried out pursuant to the provisions of this article to the certificate-issuing Party within three (3) months from its completion.

### Article 4. Access to reports

The certificate issuing Party will make available to the Administration:

- the results of quality standards evaluations conducted in accordance with Regulation I/8 of the STCW Convention;
- the reports of the steps taken by the certificate-issuing Party to implement any subsequent amendments to the STCW Convention and STCW Code (hereinafter "Code") in accordance with Section A-I/7 of the Code.

### Article 5. Verification of authenticity and validity or contents of certificates

- 1. The Administration may after registration, verify the authenticity and validity of the certificates issued by the certificate-issuing Party by an on-line system in accordance with Regulation I/2.16 of the STCW Convention provided by the certificate-issuing Party.
- 2. The Administration shall notify the certificate-issuing Party without delay, via facsimile or electronic mail, of any points that may arise from the verification of the authenticity and validity of certificates and which need further clarification.

## Article 6. Suspension, revocation and withdrawal of recognition endorsements

The Administration may suspend, revoke or withdraw a recognition endorsement issued in accordance with Regulation I/2of the STCW Convention, on account of a disciplinary

offence or any other cause as provided for in the legislation of Belgium and if it does so it shall advise the certificate-issuing Party of such occurrence within seven (7) days.

### Article 7. Notification of any significant changes

The certificate-issuing Party shall notify the Administration of any significant changes in the arrangements for training and certification provided in compliance with the STCW Convention within thirty (30) days from the application of such changes. Significant changes shall be understood to include:

- changes in the position, address or access information of the official responsible for implementing this Undertaking;
- changes affecting the procedures set forth in this Undertaking;
- Changes that amount to substantial differences from the information communicated to the Secretary-General pursuant to the Section A-I/7 of the STCW Convention.

### Article 8. Termination of the Undertaking and validity

- 1. This Undertaking shall be valid for an indefinite period of time.
- 2. This Undertaking may be terminated or suspended by either contracting Party at 12 months written notice communicated to the other contracting Party.
- 3. This Undertaking may be terminated or suspended by either contracting Party at thirty (30) days written notice communicated to the other contracting Party, provided one of the following occurs:
  - the certificate-issuing Party fails to maintain in accordance with Regulation I/7, 2, its position in the so-called "White List" (List of countries found by the International Maritime Organization to give full and complete effect to the relevant provisions of the STCW Convention);
  - refusal of the certificate-issuing Party to allow the inspection of its facilities and the review of its procedures in accordance with article3, point 1, of this Undertaking;
  - · either Party fails to meet its obligations under this Undertaking.
- 4. Endorsements attesting recognition of certificates before the date on which the decision to withdraw the recognition of Jordan's taken by the European Commission, shall remain valid until the expiration date mentioned on the endorsement. After the date of withdrawal of the recognition no new endorsements shall be given.
- 5. The other contracting Party may reply to the communication referred to in point 3within 30 days from the date of the communication.

### Article 9. Amendments

This Undertaking may be amended after a relevant proposal has been made unilaterally or bilaterally and with the consent of both Parties.

### Article 10. Entry into force

This Undertaking shall enter into force as soon as it is signed by both Parties.

Signed by Salah Ali abu Afifeh

on 15th October 2015

in Aqaba-Jordan

Director-general Jordan Maritime Commission Signed by Eugeen Van Craeyvelt

December 10th, 2015

in Belgium

Director-general

The Directorate-General Maritime Transport of the Federal Public Service of Mobility and Transport of Belgium