



Maritime &  
Coastguard  
Agency

MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE

# MSN 1815 (M) (Amendment 1)

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## Countries whose Seafarer Medical Certificates are Accepted as Equivalent to the UK Seafarer Medical Fitness Certificate (ENG 1)

**Notice to all Shipowners, Agents, Masters, Seafarers, MCA Approved Medical Practitioners and Approved Medical Referees**

*This notice should be read with the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Medical Certification) Regulations 2010 (S.I. 2010/737) and Merchant Shipping Notice MSN 1839 (M)*

*This Notice updates MSN 1815 (M)*

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### Summary

This Notice lists the countries whose seafarer medical fitness certificates are accepted as equivalent to the UK ENG 1 medical fitness certificate.

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Medical Certification) Regulations 2010 (S.I. 2010/737) (the “Medical Certification Regulations”) make it a legal requirement for seafarers to hold a valid certificate attesting to their medical fitness for the work for which they are employed.
- 1.2 The requirement for a seafarer medical fitness certificate, known, as ENG 1, does not apply to anyone employed on fishing vessels, non-commercial pleasure vessels, offshore installations whilst on their working stations. The Medical Certification Regulations also do not apply to vessels operating solely in inland waterways (waters of categories A, B, C or D) although the master of an inland waterway vessel will need to demonstrate medical fitness in order to obtain their master’s qualification.

## 2. Acceptable Medical Fitness Certificate

- 2.1 The following certificates are acceptable for seafarers on sea-going United Kingdom vessels:
  - (a) a UK seafarer medical fitness certificate, an ENG 1, issued in accordance with the provisions of the Medical Certification Regulations, by an MCA Approved Doctor listed on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)



(b) a valid national seafarer medical certificate issued in accordance with requirements of the Maritime Authority of any country listed in Annex 1 of this Notice. The certificate is one which normally is issued to a national of that country, by a Doctor approved by the Maritime Authority of that country, wherever they may be located. It **does not** entitle these doctors to issue the UK ENG 1 medical fitness certificate.

2.2 In order to obtain an equivalent medical certificate from one of the countries listed in Annex 1, the Maritime Authority of the respective country should be contacted, to direct the seafarer to a doctor authorised by their authority to conduct seafarer medical examinations.

2.3 As a standard for working on a UK vessel, it is expected that the equivalent medical certificate has an English translation, in order for the Master of the vessel and/or any Surveyor/Inspector who may wish to check the medical certificate to identify any restrictions to the duties for the voyage for which they are embarked.

2.4 Further countries may be added to the list when their standards have been assessed for equivalency.

## More Information

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### Countries whose Seafarer Medical Certificates are Accepted as Equivalent to the UK Seafarer Medical Certificate (ENG 1)

The following are the countries whose national seafarer medical certificates are accepted as equivalent to the UK's ENG 1 Seafarer Medical Fitness Certificate. It **does not** authorise doctors from these countries to issue ENG 1 seafarer medical fitness certificates.

This list reflects the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Medical Certification) Regulations 2010. Further countries may be added to the list when the medical standards and systems have been assessed for equivalency.

| European Union and European Economic States | Rest of the World |
|---|-------------------|
| Belgium                                     | Australia         |
| Bulgaria                                    | Canada            |
| Croatia                                     | Hong Kong         |
| Cyprus                                      | India             |
| Czech Republic                              | Jamaica           |
| Denmark                                     | Mauritius         |
| Estonia                                     | New Zealand       |
| Finland                                     | Pakistan          |
| France                                      | South Africa      |
| Germany                                     | Sri Lanka         |
| Greece                                      | Ukraine           |
| Hungary                                     |                   |
| Iceland                                     |                   |
| Ireland                                     |                   |
| Italy                                       |                   |
| Latvia                                      |                   |
| Lithuania                                   |                   |
| Luxembourg                                  |                   |
| Malta                                       |                   |
| Netherlands                                 |                   |
| Norway                                      |                   |
| Poland                                      |                   |
| Portugal                                    |                   |
| Romania                                     |                   |
| Slovakia                                    |                   |
| Slovenia                                    |                   |
| Spain                                       |                   |
| Sweden                                      |                   |

