

CIRCULAR

22 December 2015

Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks (WRC) : update

- We refer to our November and December 2014 and February 2015 circulars informing Members that the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks (WRC) would enter into force on 14 April 2015 and containing information about certification requirements.
https://britanniapandi.com/publication_type/circulars/?date=&tag_b=50&language
- Members are reminded of the requirement that ships of 300gt and greater that are registered in a WRC State Party or call at a port or offshore facility in a WRC State Party must carry on board a certificate attesting that insurance or other financial security is in force in accordance with the Convention. The certificate must be obtained from the State in which the ship is registered, providing that that State is a party to the WRC.
- Since the Convention entered into force on 14 April 2015 the Bahamas, Cyprus and Panama have become States Parties bringing the current number of WRC Parties to 25.
- Ships registered in countries that are not a party to the WRC may obtain WRC certificates from a relevant authority in a State Party, providing that State has accepted to issue such certificates in respect of such ships, e.g. Cook Islands, Cyprus, Germany, Liberia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Palau or the UK. Members are advised to check whether the authorities in the Flag State for such ships have agreements with any WRC State(s) concerning the issuance of WRC certificates, and make timely applications for a WRC certificate from an appropriate State Party authority.
- The club maintains a list of the relevant electronic and postal addresses of State party administrations for most WRC States Parties. There is a full list of States Parties at the end of this circular.

At the time of publication of this circular the WRC is in force in 25 states, details of which can be found on the following page:

Status NAIROBI WRC 2007 (as at 17/12/2015)**Contracting States: 25****Date of Entry into Force: 14/4/2015**

Country/Territory	Deposit Date	Date of Country Entry into Force
Albania*	05/05/2015	05/08/2015
Antigua and Barbuda*	09/01/2015	14/04/2015
Bahamas*	05/06/2015	05/09/2015
Bulgaria*	08/02/2012	14/04/2015
Congo	19/05/2014	14/04/2015
Cook Islands	22/12/2014	14/04/2015
Cyprus*	22/07/2015	22/10/2015
Denmark*	14/04/2014	14/04/2015
Germany*	20/06/2013	14/04/2015
India	23/03/2011	14/04/2015
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	19/04/2011	14/04/2015
Kenya*	14/04/2015	14/07/2015
Liberia*	08/01/2015	14/04/2015
Malaysia	28/11/2013	14/04/2015
Malta*	18/01/2015	18/04/2015
Marshall Islands*	27/10/2014	14/04/2015
Morocco	13/06/2013	14/04/2015
Nigeria	23/07/2009	14/04/2015
Niue*	27/04/2015	27/07/2015
Palau	29/09/2011	14/04/2015
Panama*	18/08/2015	18/11/2015
South Africa	04/04/2015	04/12/2015
Tonga	20/03/2015	20/06/2015
Tuvalu	17/02/2015	17/05/2015
United Kingdom*	30/11/2012	14/04/2015

**denotes the 13 States that apply the WRC within their territory in accordance with Art.3.2 of the Convention*

Note: The Wreck Removal Convention also applies by extension in the British Overseas Territory of Gibraltar and the Crown Dependency of the Isle of Man.

•denotes the States that have applied a Reservation in respect of LLMC 1976 Article 2 paragraph 1 (d) and (e) removing the right to limit liability for claims in respect of the raising, removal, destruction or the rendering harmless of a ship which is sunk, wrecked or abandoned, including anything that is or has been on board such ship and claims in respect of the removal, destruction or the rendering harmless of the cargo of the ship.

Note: the UK's LLMC Reservation applies by extension to the British Overseas Territory of Gibraltar and the Crown Dependency of the Isle of Man.

All clubs in the International Group have issued a similar circular.