



Brazilian Authorities will enforce current legislation, and crewmembers must present SID by May 1st.

Introduction

The Ministry of Justice and Public Security is responsible for Immigration in Brazil. The National Immigration Council (CNIg), part of this Ministry, coordinates all internal efforts to interact with these sensible questions.

The Brazilian Federal Police has a representative at the National Council and is the Immigration Authority in the Country.

Background

The extensions granted by Federal Police due to the Pandemic enabled the crewmembers, regardless of their nationality, to cross Brazilian borders and enter Brazil using ILO 108 identification (the seaman's book). The latest extension expires on April 30.

As of May 1st foreign crewmembers of countries who have ratified or are signatories of the International Labor Organization (ILO), ILO Convention 185 must hold a valid Seafarers' Identity Document (SID), and crewmembers of all other countries must have a temporary visa for Brazil in their passports.

If the seafarer fails to comply with the legislation and is not in compliance with immigration regulations will not receive authorization for joining or signing off from the vessels and owners will be subject to penalties irrespective of whether crewmembers disembark or not.

Countries

ILO Convention 185 applies to the respective signatory countries, as per the list made available by the organization on its website. It includes States such as Croatia, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Russian Federation, and Turkey, among others.

According to the Federal Police, per legal provisions, for example, Filipino seafarers must comply with regulatory requirements, "presenting the new maritime identity document and, eventually, depending on the period of stay and the vessel they are crewing, obtain a consular visa".

Expiration date

"The maximum period of validity of the seafarers' identity document will be determined following the legislation of the State that issued it, and may not, in any case, exceed ten years, without prejudice to its renewal after the first five years", highlights Convention 185.



Alternative

For cases of crew members born in non-signatory countries and who require a visa to enter Brazil, Decree 9199/2017 provides for the possibility of exceptional admission. In this case, the requests are through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Conclusion

After Federal Police provided two extensions, SID will be mandatory for seafarers in Brazil, entering into force on the first day of May.

Brazil P&I Team is available to clarify any further questions about current regulations.

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