



Risk Assessment Solutions

“Prevent, Don’t Cure”

Circular 02/02/2015

Subject: Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks - Important Issue!

In connection to our **“Don’t Cure, Prevent”** policy, we would like to inform our clients that the **Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks (WRC)** adopted in 2007, will come into force **on 14th of April 2015**.

From this date forward, all vessels *300 gross tons and above* are required to be insured or have financial security to cover liability under WRC.

This Convention aims to further complete the existing international legal framework by providing the first set of uniform international rules which aim to ensure prompt and effective removal of wrecks located beyond the territorial sea.

Our clients should bear in mind that from now on:

- A valid **WRC certificate** is required and should be available on board when entering/leaving the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) or jurisdiction of any other state that is Party to the Convention.
- The most common form of cover is **“WRC Blue Card”**.
- Ship owners are financially responsible for the cost of wreck removal with coverage arranged through their P&I clubs (issuance of Blue Cards as evidence of coverage).
- Ship owners with vessels that are not registered in a state that is Party to the Convention may obtain certificates from **any** other state that is a Party to the Convention.
- The Certificate has to be renewed **annually by the 20th of February**.
- Registry-issued certificate must be presented to the port authorities upon request.

The below countries are parties to the Convention and their Certificates will be valid as of the date the Convention comes into force:

Antigua & Barbuda, Bulgaria, Congo, Cook Islands, Denmark, Germany, India, Iran, Liberia, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Morocco, Nigeria, Palau, United Kingdom

Vessels which are flagged in the above countries will need to apply for a certificate from their flag state. Certificates for bareboat registered vessels will be issued by the flag of the vessel it currently flies – if that flag is a party to the Convention. Otherwise, the certificate may be issued by any other Party to the Convention.

In connection to the above, **“Prevention at Sea”** is ready to assist our clients in the process of contacting the Flag Authorities and completing the issuance process.

For more details we remain at your disposal.

Prevention at Sea