

COUNTRY REPORT

ST.KITTS AND NEVIS

With over 90 % of world trade transported by sea, it does not take a rocket scientist to determine the importance of shipping to the economic and social development of St.Kitts and Nevis. Shipping since time immemorial has played an essential role in ensuring that food reaches the table of our people. For this and other reasons it is our intention to effectively carry out our International Maritime obligations as enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the various International Maritime Organization (IMO) conventions and the provisions of the soon to be enforced International Maritime Labour Convention. Just like many of you who are attending this most timely and important conference, our delegation is here to gather as much information as we can, which would help us to make an informed decision leading eventually to the ratification of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006.

Since the establishment of the St.Kitts and Nevis ship registry in 2005 there has been a concerted effort to effectively fulfill our Flag, Port and Coastal State responsibilities. We have sought ever since to be involved in primarily all the evolutions of IMO. The Federation has now ratified 35 IMO Conventions. To this end I wish now to share in compliance with the guidelines as given, the following statistics with you

1. BASIC DATA ON SEAFARERS AND SHIPS

- **No. of Ships Flying the St.Kitts and Nevis Flag**

As at July 2009 the total number of ships over 500 Gross Tonnage (GT) flying the St.Kitts and Nevis flag is 318 representing a total of 1, 348, 064 Gross Tonnage (GT)

NB. St.Kitts and Nevis do not keep separate records for vessels in plying national and international voyages

- **No. of National and Foreign Seafarers working on National Flag Ships**

As at July 2009 the total number of Seafarers registered on St.Kitts and Nevis Flag Vessels were 6, 700

NB. St.Kitts and Nevis do not keep records of how many are working on our ships at any single moment in time.

- No. of Seafarers that have been issued national seafarers training certificates (STCW related) Distributed into navigation/engine and classes etc.

Certificates of endorsement issued are as follows:

Deck)	Total for both categories
Engine	4090	
GMDSS	1220	
Tanker	166	

2. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES RELATED TO THE INSPECTION OF SHIPS

St.Kitts and Nevis has agreements for the delegation of statutory certification services with the following Class societies or recognized organizations

- American Bureau of Shipping - ABS
- Bureau Veritas - BV
- Germanischer Lloyd - GL
- Hellenic Register of Shipping - HRS
- International Register of Shipping – IRS
- Korean Register of Shipping - KRS
- Lloyds Register of Shipping - LR
- Nippon Kaiji Kyokai - Class NK
- Polski Rejestr Statkow - PRS
- Registro Italiano Navale - RINA
- Russian Maritime Register of Shipping - RS

The St.Kitts and Nevis Maritime Administration instructions to RO's are to carry out inspection of accommodation in accordance with ILO 147 at the time of reflagging surveys.

A net work of flag state inspectors have been established to Monitor St.Kitts and Nevis flag vessels and all negative Port State Inspection reports are thoroughly investigated.

3. RATIFICATION OF GENERAL AND MARITIME LABOUR RELATED INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

St.Kitts and Nevis has not ratified any ILO Maritime Convention.

4. IDENTIFICATION OF PROGRESS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT STEP TO ENABLE RAPID RATIFICATION AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MARITIME LABOUR CONVENTION, 2006

In our efforts to gather information in support of the ratification of MLC 2006 the Registrar of Ships and Seamen for St.Kitts and Nevis attended a seminar entitled **Implementing the ILO Maritime Labour Convention 2006 : A Practical Perspective**, this seminar was organized and hosted by Lloyd's Maritime Academy in London October 2008. The process of gathering information on this most important convention since then has been on going and we are anxiously awaiting the income of this conference which we believe will indeed hasten the ratification process for St.Kitts and Nevis. Plans are also being made to attend the MLC 2006 Seminar in London next month.

HOW MLC 2006 ALREADY REFLECTED IN NATIONAL LAWS

B) TITLE 1

- i) Covered in Merchant Shipping Act – section 116
- ii) Standard of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers Convention (STCW) Medical Regulations in final stages of becoming law.
- iii) STCW Convention has been ratified and in final stages of becoming law.

4C)

i) Covered in section 86 – 90 of the Merchant shipping Act. Crew articles regulations in final stages of becoming law.

ii) Covered in section 91 – 101 of the Merchant Shipping Act

iii) Covered in section 86 – 90 of the Merchant Shipping Act

iv) Covered in section 86 – 90 Of the Merchant Shipping Act

v) Covered in section 86 – 90 of the Merchant Shipping Act

vi) Covered in section 99 of the Merchant Shipping Act

vii) Covered in STCW Regulations which is in final stages of becoming law

viii) Covered in the Merchant Shipping Act.

4D)

i) Covered in sections 102 – 106 of the Merchant Shipping Act

ii) Covered in section 102 – 106 of Merchant Shipping Act,

4E)

i) Covered in section 114 – for onboard ship.

ii) – iii) Not fully covered by the Merchant Shipping Act.

4F)

i) The survey and certification of ships for compliance with the MLC will be delegated to Class Societies/RO's. having established the procedures.

ii) Covered in Port State Regulations

The greatest challenge for us would be one of technical assistance, training of Inspectors, funding and making the necessary amendment to give effect to the MCL 2006 in our local laws.