

# Republic of the Marshall Islands

## MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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### MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY No. 07-23

**To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Nautical Inspectors, Recognized Organizations**

**Subject: BRAZIL: ENFORCEMENT OF SEAFARER IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS**

**Date: 18 May 2023**

The Brazilian immigration authorities (Federal Police of Brazil) are strictly enforcing Brazilian immigration requirements with respect to seafarers, and are issuing substantial penalties for non-compliance. A good summary of this initiative is contained in Proinde Circular [18-02-2023](#), *ILO C108 Seafarer's Identity Document No Longer Accepted*. Proinde has also issued a very helpful, comprehensive guide entitled [Immigration Controls on Seafarers in Brazil](#).

#### Current Requirements

Brazil is a signatory to the International Labor Organization (ILO) *Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention* ([C185](#)). Therefore, as of 1 May 2023 all seafarers arriving in Brazil must hold a valid:

1. C185 compliant Seafarers' Identity Document (SID); or
2. **passport** and, depending on their nationality and length of stay, a **visa** to enter the country or disembark for repatriation.

#### SID Issuance

C185 compliant SIDs can only be issued by a country to its citizens. A list of ILO Member States that have ratified C185 can be found [here](#). The Marshall Islands Seafarer Identity and Record Book (SIRB) is not a substitute for a C185 compliant SID issued by the seafarer's country of citizenship.

#### Visas

The Brazilian Ministry of External Relations maintains a table listing [visa requirements](#) and exemptions from them (based on country of citizenship) for the entry of foreigners in Brazil. Their visa program is explained [here](#).

#### Action to be Taken

It is imperative that ship operators of Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)-flagged vessels ensure that before trading to Brazil their seafarers are in possession of the appropriate documentation (either a C185 compliant SID or valid passport and unless exempt, a visa).

This MSA is evaluated annually by the Administrator and expires one year after its issuance or renewal unless otherwise noted, superseded, or revoked.