



# South African Maritime Safety Authority

Ref: SM6/5/2/1  
SM8/2/11/1

Date: 08 March 2012

## Marine Notice No. 7 of 2012

---

---

### Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA) and South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)

TO REGIONAL MANAGERS, PRINCIPAL OFFICERS, REGISTRAR OF SEAFARERS, ACCREDITED MARINE RADIO TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, AND OTHER INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

---

---

#### *Summary*

ICASA and SAMSA signed a MoU whereby SAMSA will perform certain functions on behalf of ICASA.

#### **1. Background**

An initial MoU was entered into by and between ICASA and SAMSA on 18 May 2006 whereby the marine radio operator examination function was transferred from ICASA to SAMSA. However, the transfer of that function did not include the issuing of the Marine Radio Operator Certificates which function was retained by ICASA.

Following the negotiations between ICASA and SAMSA, a new MoU was concluded and signed on 15 December 2011, replacing the 2006 MoU.

#### **2. Terms of the MoU**

**2.1** SAMSA has been appointed by ICASA, as an expert, to perform the following functions on its behalf:

**2.1.1** To set up the requirements and monitoring mechanism for examiners and training institutions to be respectively accredited as such for—

- a) **Examiners:** conducting written and practical examination for candidates leading to the issuance of the appropriate certificates including the Long Range and Short Range (non-SOLAS) Radio Operator Certificate, GMDSS General Operator Certificate and First and Second Class Radio Electronics Certificate.
- b) **Examiners:** conducting written and practical examination to establish proficiency in aspects relating to the usage of marine radio equipment.
- c) **Training institutions:** conducting training of candidates to the level of knowledge required for them to sit an examinations for the issuance of the appropriate certificates.

**2.1.2** To conduct examinations on, and issue, the following certificates—

- a) Restricted Radiotelephone Operators Certificates, both RTC (VHF only) and RTC (VHF and SSB).
- b) Long range and Short Range (non-SOLAS) Radio Operator Certificates.

- c) GMDSS General Operator Certificate.
- d) First and Second Class Radio Electronics Certificates.  
(Only SAMSA will issue the Radio Operator certificates and the temporary certificates of pass)

**2.1.3** To review—

- a) All previously accredited training institutions and re-accredit them if they meet necessary standards set out by SAMSA.
- b) The relevant certifications and align them with the applicable laws.

**2.1.4** To provide authentication of the valid and existing Radio Operator Certificates and validation of GMDSS General Operator certificate.

*(At present only GMDSS GOC require revalidation at least every 5 years as they are STCW compliant certificates. Restricted radio operator certificates are not required to be revalidated however there is a requirement for the authentication of all certificates.*

*Once the new certificates have been introduced, authentication will be required for all certificates and 5 yearly revalidations will be required for GMDSS GOC, First class and Second class radio electronic certificates.)*

**3. Charges**

SAMSA shall determine the examination and certification fees in terms of the SAMSA Act on Determination of Charges.

**4. Implementation**

The transfer of the functions from ICASA to SAMSA shall be phased in and the entire handover shall become fully effective six (6) months from the date of signing of the MoU which is 15<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

8 March 2012

SM6/5/2/1

SM8/2/11/1

Issued by and obtainable from:  
**The South African Maritime Safety Authority**  
**161 Lynnwood Road**  
**Brooklyn, Pretoria**

**PO Box 13186**  
**Hatfield 0028**

**Tel: +27 12 366 2600**

**Fax: +27 12 366 2601**

**E-mail: [marinenotices@samsa.org.za](mailto:marinenotices@samsa.org.za)**

**Web Site : [www.samsa.org.za](http://www.samsa.org.za)**