Department of Public Relations

Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the **Slovak Republic**

**We would like to confirm that MUDr. Ľuboš Hriňa is a physician, who according to article 41 (14) to (16) of the Act No 435/2000 Coll. on maritime navigation, as amended, is authorized to assess the health condition and to issue the medical opinion for crew members of seagoing ships.**

(14) Prior to passing the professional examination before the examining board appointed by the Ministry, the applicant proves his medical fitness by the medical opinion, which may be not older than three months. Proving the fitness competence shall be the condition for admission to the professional examination. The medical fitness of a crew member, including the issue of medical opinion, is assessed by a physician of the health care provider, charged by the Ministry. 14b)

(15) The ministry shall charge by performance of activity according to paragraph 14 a physician, who has completed university education of second degree in the doctoral study programme in general medicine, passed training on living, working and health conditions on seagoing ships or practiced as ship physician on a seagoing ship, has at his disposal a health care facility for assessment of medical fitness within the scope according to the international treaty, by which the Slovak Republic is bound, 14c) and is independent from the owner of the seagoing ship, the operator of the seagoing ship, the crew member and the agent who places him as a crew member. The application for the authorisation for assessment of medical fitness of a crew member shall indicate the name, surname, date of birth and permanent address of the physician and the place of operation of the health care facility, where the physician performs the activity according to paragraph 14. The application shall be accompanied by documents proving the fulfilment of conditions under the first sentence. Personal data indicated in this application may be provided to the competent authorities of another State, the owner of the seagoing ship, the operator of the seagoing ship and the crew member. The physician in charge is obliged to immediately inform the Ministry about all changes in data stated in the application and its annex. The ministry shall withdraw from the physician in charge the authorisation for performance of activity according to paragraph 14, if the latter does not fulfil the conditions under the first sentence any more or applies for withdrawal of the authorisation.

(16) A crew member shall prove his medical fitness before embarkation by a valid medical opinion issued according to paragraph 14. The physician in charge shall issue the medical opinion to the crew member, if he meets standards of medical fitness according to the international treaty, by which the Slovak Republic is bound. 14d) A crew member, who applies for medical opinion, must prove, that he has achieved the minimum age of 18 years, and his identity. Unless the medical opinion of a crew member states otherwise, it is issued for a period not exceeding 24 months; in case of a crew member, who is older than 55 years, the validity of medical opinion is 12 months. The period of validity of medical opinion of a crew member, who has concluded the employment contract for a definite period, corresponds to the agreed duration of employment relationship, but must not exceed 24 months.

**As the Slovak Republic is a land-locked country and the number of persons, who are crew members, is very limited, no other physician or health care facility than MUDR. Hriňa is in charge.**

**Note: To date we do not register any other application for the authorisation for performance of this activity, and there was no other person to be granted this type of authorisation, because the Act No 435/2000 Coll. permits the issue of the authorisation on the basis of submitted application and fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above.**

**For completeness we provide the contact data of the physician in charge, on the basis of which the authorisation No. 07028/2013/C421-SCLVD/z.71012 was issued on 19.11.2013 according to Chapter I, rule I/9 and Part A-I/9 of the International Convention on training standards, certification and watchkeeping of seafarers 1978, as amended, to MUDr. Ľuboš HRIŇA, Maritime Medical Health Centre, Clinic Ružinov, Ružinovská 10, 821 01 Bratislava, as physician for assessment of medical fitness of crew members of seagoing ships, with validity until 31 December 2016.**