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SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF  
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING  
38th session  
Agenda item 9

STW 38/9/1  
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## DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETENCES FOR RATINGS

### Comments and proposals on the Correspondence Group's report

Submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran

#### SUMMARY

**Executive summary:** This document contains comments and proposals with regard to the report of the Correspondence Group on the issue of development of competences for ratings (STW 38/9)

**Action to be taken:** Paragraph 10

**Related documents:** STW 37/18, STW 38/9 and the STCW Code \*

#### Background

1 The Sub-Committee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping at its thirty-seventh session agreed to re-establish the Correspondence Group (CG), under the co-ordination of the United Kingdom, for development of competences for ratings excluding the ship's cook. The report of the Correspondence Group to the STW Sub-Committee has been circulated as document STW 38/9. With so many participants in the CG naturally it has not been possible to get unanimous agreement on all issues and the efforts made by the co-ordinator to what has been achieved are appreciated.

#### Comments and Proposals

2 In document STW 38/9, annex 2, both paragraphs II/5.6 and II/5.5 (first paragraph on page 2 of annex 2, titled Proposed Text for Grandfather Clause) serves the same purpose which is as a grandfather clause. Since the wording of the second paragraph (II/5.5) is similar to the wording already used in the STCW Convention (paragraphs II/4.4 and III/4.4) therefore, it is suggested that the existing paragraph II/5.6 is deleted and the later paragraph (II/5.5) is renumbered as new paragraph II/5.6.

3 In STW 38/9, annex 2 both paragraphs III/5.3 and III/5.4 serve the same purpose which is as a grandfather clause. Since the wording of the second paragraph (III/5.4) is similar to the

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\* STCW Convention, published in 2001 is used for references.

wording already used in the STCW Convention (paragraphs II/4.4 and III/4.4) therefore, it is suggested that the existing paragraph III/5.3 is deleted and the paragraph III/5.4 is renumbered as new paragraph III/5.3.

4 Recalling from the deliberations took place in the Plenary and Working Group (STW 37/18, paragraphs 10.29 and 10.32) in respect of the methods and means of documenting on-board training, the Correspondence Group was tasked while taking into account regulations I/6 and I/8, to consider the issue further (STW 38/9, paragraph 1.3). However, since CG has not reflected their views on this issue in their report (STW 38/9) and in order to ensure that on-board training is carried out according to a structured program and documented therefore, it is proposed that Part B of the STCW Code, to take care of the issue, is amended as set out in annex 1.

5 STW 38/9, annex 2, Table A-II/5, Function: Navigation at the support level

According to the proposed function the candidate must meet the standard of competence specified in Table A-II/4. However, as per requirements of paragraph II/5.2.2 the candidate is required to have not less than the specified period of approved sea service after obtaining II/4 (rating forming part of a navigational watch) certificate before applying for II/5 (able seafarer deck) certificate. In other words, the candidate has been previously assessed and found competent for the relevant standards (i.e. II/4).

6 STW 38/9, annex 2, Page 7, Table A-II/5

The competence of “Contribute to berthing, anchoring and other mooring operations” is presented under the function “controlling the operation of the ship and care for persons on board”. However, anchoring, berthing and mooring operations are part of the navigation function as can be seen from the STCW Code, Tables A-II/1 (page 35), A-II/2 (pages 48 and 49) and A-II/3 (page 65).

7 Taking above paragraphs 5 and 6 into account, the following changes to Table A-II/5 are proposed:

- .1 the competence of “Contribute to berthing, anchoring and other mooring operations” is shifted to the Navigation function; and
- .2 the text for “Contribute to a safe navigational watch” competence is added to the Navigation function,

so that the proposed Navigation function would consist of only two competences mentioned in above subparagraphs 7.1 and 7.2 as set out in section (a) in annex 2.

8 STW 38/9, annex 2, Page 9, Table A-II/5, first competence

In order to be in line with the other parts of the STCW Code (Table A-II/1, page 38 and Table A-III/1, page 81) the text as set out in section (b) of annex 2 is proposed for columns 2 to 4 of the “Operate survival craft and rescue boats” competence.

9 STW 38/9, annex 2, page 11, Table A-III/5, Contribute to safe engineering watchkeeping competence

According to the proposed competence the candidate must meet the standard of competence specified in Table A-III/4. However, as per the requirements of paragraph III/5.2.2 the candidate is required to have not less than the specified period of approved sea service after obtaining III/4 (engine rating forming part of a watch) certificate before applying for III/5(able seafarer engine) certificate. In other words, the candidate has been previously assessed and found competent for the relevant standards (i.e. III/4). Therefore, it is proposed that the mentioned competence is deleted.

**Action requested of the Sub-Committee**

10 The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the comments and proposals presented in this document, and take action as appropriate.

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## ANNEX 1

### PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE STCW CODE, PART B

#### **Proposed new Section B-II/5**

*Guidance regarding the certification of ratings as able seafarer deck*

- 1 On-board training should be documented in an approved training record book.

#### **Proposed new Section B-III/5**

*Guidance regarding the certification of ratings as able seafarer engine in a manned engine-room or designated to perform duties in a periodically unmanned engine-room*

- 1 On-board training should be documented in an approved training record book.

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## ANNEX 2

## (a) Function: Navigation at the support level

| Column 1                                                              | Column 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Column 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Column 4                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Competence                                                            | Knowledge, understanding and proficiency                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Methods for demonstrating competence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Criteria for evaluating competence                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Contribute to a safe navigational watch</b>                        | <p>Ability to understand orders and to communicate with the officer of the watch in matters relevant to watch-keeping duties</p> <p>Procedures for the relief, maintenance and handover of a watch</p> <p>Information required to maintain a safe watch</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Assessment of evidence obtained from in-service experience or practical test                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>Communication are clear and concise</p> <p>Maintenance, handover and relief of the watch is in conformity with acceptable practices and procedures</p> |
| <b>Contribute to berthing, anchoring and other mooring operations</b> | <p>Working knowledge of the mooring system and related procedures including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>.1 the function of mooring and tug lines and how each line functions as part of an overall system</li> <li>.2 the capacities, safe working loads, and breaking strengths of mooring equipment including mooring wires, synthetic and fibre lines, winches, anchor windlasses, capstans, bitts, chocks and bollards</li> <li>.3 the procedures and order of events for making fast and letting go mooring and tug lines and wires include towing lines</li> </ul> | <p>Assessment of evidence obtained from one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>.1 approved in-service experience;</li> <li>.2 practical training;</li> <li>.3 examination in mooring simulator</li> <li>.4 approved training ship experience</li> </ul> | Operations are carried out in accordance with established safety practices and equipment operating instructions                                           |

| Column 1   | Column 2                                                                                                                                                                                            | Column 3                             | Column 4                           |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Competence | Knowledge, understanding and proficiency                                                                                                                                                            | Methods for demonstrating competence | Criteria for evaluating competence |
|            | <p>.4 the procedures and order of events for the use of anchors in various operations</p> <p>Working knowledge of the procedures and order of events associated with mooring to a buoy or buoys</p> |                                      |                                    |

(b) Proposed text for columns 2 to 4 of “Operate survival craft and rescue boat”

| Column 1                                       | Column 2                                                                                                                                                                              | Column 3                                                                                                                    | Column 4                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Competence                                     | Knowledge, understanding and proficiency                                                                                                                                              | Methods for demonstrating competence                                                                                        | Criteria for evaluating competence                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Operate survival craft and rescue boats</b> | <p>Knowledge of the operation of survival craft and rescue boats, their launching appliances and arrangements, and their equipment</p> <p>Knowledge of survival at sea techniques</p> | <p>Assessment of evidence obtained from approved training and experience as set out in section A-I/2, paragraphs 1 to 4</p> | <p>Actions in responding to abandon ship and survival situations are appropriate to the prevailing circumstances and conditions and comply with accepted safety practices and standards</p> |