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SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING
32nd session
Agenda item 7

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FOLLOW-UP ACTION TO THE 1995 STCW-F CONFERENCE

Definition of 'large fishing vessel'

Submitted by Ukraine

SUMMARY

Executive summary: Developing recommendations for inclusion in the future work programme of the Sub-Committee as a follow-up action to 1995 STCW-F Conference Resolution 6 - Training and Certification of personnel on large fishing vessels taking into account the provisions of the STCW-78, as amended in 1995

Action to be taken: Paragraph 3

Related documents: STCW-F Convention, Resolution 6 and STW 31/WP.6

1 In the opinion of Ukraine, the use of definition "large fishing vessel" is legally unjustified. The definition of this term is not contained in any IMO instrument. Furthermore, the definition "large fishing vessel" has no criteria. At the same time, a modern fishing vessel of 500 gross tonnage and above should carry navigational equipment and have navigation bridge arrangements in accordance with the requirements of the new chapter V of SOLAS. Many IMO Member States equip their seagoing fishing vessels with complete sets of GMDSS means of communication. There are a number of regulations in force which are applicable to fishing vessels, for example chapter V, relating to Safety of Navigation, of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, Annexes I (in terms of discharge of oily wastes) and V (Garbage) of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78), and the Collision Regulations. Thus, a seagoing fishing vessel, which navigates in unlimited waters other than those sheltered waters or outside areas where port regulations apply, is equivalent to a seagoing vessel, as provided for in Resolution 6 of the STCW-F Conference. Therefore, the standards of knowledge and qualification of the personnel of seagoing fishing vessels should comply with the requirements of the STCW Convention and STCW Code.

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2 The Government of Ukraine proposes that the expression 'large fishing vessel' in Conference resolution 6 be defined as a fishing vessel of 42 metres in length or above. Taking into consideration the factors in paragraph 1 above, Ukraine further proposes that fishing vessel personnel serving on board large fishing vessels should be required to meet the same standards of competence as required by the STCW Convention and STCW Code, as amended.

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

3 The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the above and decide as appropriate.
