



SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING
30th session
Agenda item 12

STW 30/INF.6
27 November 1998
ENGLISH ONLY

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Fraudulent certificates

Submitted by Australia

SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	Following recent media coverage of the issue, this document informs the Sub-Committee of several cases of fraudulent certificates being discovered by Australia.
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 4.
<i>Related documents:</i>	Nil.

1 Following recent media coverage of the problem of fraudulent certificates, Australia is of the view that the practice may be quite widespread.

2 In this context Australia wishes to draw the attention of the Sub-Committee to the following twelve instances where such certificates have been discovered in Australia, since 1995.

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

3 The Sub-Committee is invited to note the information at annex.

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ANNEX

For the information of the Sub-Committee, the following instances of fraudulent certificates have been discovered in Australia since 1995.

Country of origin of certificate	Level of certificate	Comments
Canada	Master	Obtained a forged Canadian Master Foreign going certificate in Singapore which he then used to obtain a Liberian certificate. The holder then presented the Liberian certificate to an Australian MSA examiner seeking recognition.
Canada	Master	As above.
Sri Lanka	All levels	Advised by Sri Lankan authorities that all certificates issued prior to 1 September 1990 are not genuine.
Australia	Third and fourth Assistant engineer	Holder presented forged Australian "Interim Document" to Liberian authorities requesting recognition.
Burma	chief mate	Applicant presented forged Burmese certificate as evidence of lower grade qualifications when applying to enter an Australian maritime college.
Honduras	Master	Certificate confirmed by Honduran Consul in Singapore as one of a number reported as stolen.
Honduras	Second mate	Certificate confirmed by Honduran Consul in Singapore as one of a number reported as stolen.
Honduras	Second engineer	Certificate confirmed by Honduran Consul in Singapore as one of a number reported as stolen.
Australia	First Class Engineer (certificate of service)	Document presented to an Australian MSA surveyor and found to be forged.
India	Second mate foreign going	Holder presented a forged certificate as evidence of his lower grade qualifications prior to enrolling at a maritime college in Australia.
Liberia/Sri Lanka	Second mate	Liberian certificate issued on the basis of a pre 1990 Sri Lankan certificate.
Nigeria	Third class engineer	Nigerian authorities advised that this certificate was not genuine.