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SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING
32nd session
Agenda item 6

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UNLAWFUL PRACTICES ASSOCIATED WITH CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY

Fraudulent certificates and preventive measures

Submitted by Vanuatu

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document informs the Sub-Committee of further cases of fraudulent Documents confiscated by Vanuatu during flag State controls as requested by MSC/Circ 900 dated 2 February 1999.

Action to be taken: Paragraph 7

Related documents: STW 31/6/1, STW 31/6/3 and MSC/Circ.900

1 This document refers to cases of fraudulent documents detected during Vanuatu's screening process additional to those reported in STW 31/6/1 and STW 31/6/3.

Cases identified during the screening process.

2 The current cases relate to fraudulent documents submitted by deck or engineer officers for endorsement under regulation I/10 of the STCW Convention or by ratings purporting to have qualifications required by the Convention.

3 There are 24 additional cases involving 6 countries. Details are contained in the list provided in the Appendix. The persons involved will be forever denied employment on Vanuatu vessels. In some cases, the owners of the vessels have been fined.

4 The pattern of the offences was similar to that reported in STW 31/6/1 and STW 31/6/3. However, during one investigation a seafarer claimed that he asked a "friend" to process his certificate as he did not have much time available to him to do so. In another case, a Philippine seafarer admitted that he purchased the STCW certificate from a "Mr. Romeo" outside the Manila Seaman's Centre for the sum of 80,000 pesos. Similar cases have been identified in Mumbai. Similarly, Vanuatu has been advised that, in Tegulcigalpa, Honduras, just outside the Marina Mercante, forgers can be found who will take \$150 US and produce a document in about 45 minutes. Ironically, in another case, a Philippine seafarer with a fraudulent document had been awarded the New Heroes Award by the government of the Philippines for rescuing the crew

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from a sinking vessel. The majority of seafarers, however, claimed that there has been a mistake and that their documents were in order.

Reports to Seafarers International Research Centre

5 The cases listed in the Appendix have been, or will be, sent to the Seafarers International Research Centre at Cardiff University.

Summary comments

6 Vanuatu is continuing to alert all its Safety Inspectors, Deputy Commissioners and Shipping Companies of its findings. It will also continue to co-operate with other Administrations in ensuring that fraudulent certificate holders are excluded from merchant ships.

Action requested of the Committee

7 The Committee is invited to note the above information and decide as appropriate.

APPENDIX

Country	Case	Name	Rank/Rating	Fraudulent Document	Passport No
Chile	99005.CHI	Juan de la Cruz Trincado Hevia	Second Engineer	Certificate of Competency	4.439.893.1
Columbia	99006.COL	Carlos Arturo Rocha	Master	Certificate of Competency	19359843
Ecuador	98002.ECU	Kleber M Lopez	First Assistant Engineer	Certificate of Competency	SA 16.221
Ecuador	98002.ECU	Francisco Isaac Delgado Quijijd	Second Assistant Engineer	Certificate of Competency	SB 57.943
Ecuador	98002.ECU	Jaime C. Macias Zambrano	Third Assistant Engineer	Certificate of Competency	SA 42.035
India	99014.IND	Lal Bihari Singh	Motorman	STCW Endorsement	U 193684
India	99017.IND	Aurobin Anthony S.H. Noronha	Chief Engineer	COC/STCW Endorsement	P 773535
Philippines	00018.PHI	Gilberto Hallares Facelo	Chief Engineer	STCW Endorsement	DD 169830
Philippines	00019.PHI	Samuel Huyo Armendez	Chief Engineer	STCW Endorsement	BB 073194
Philippines	00020.PHI	Quirino Jalbuna Tabares	First Assistant Engineer	STCW Endorsement	BB 715821
Honduras	00021.HON	Linburg Ruphert Alonzo	First Assistant Engineer	Certificate of Competency	527493
Philippines	00022.PHI	Edgardo M. Rivera	Master	STCW Endorsement	-
Philippines	00022.PHI	Wenceslao G. Garolacan	Chief Mate	STCW Endorsement	231717
Philippines	00022.PHI	Virgilio R. Salaysay	Master	STCW Endorsement	-
Philippines	00022.PHI	Roberto D. Gamilong	Master	STCW Endorsement	-
Philippines	00022.PHI	Rogelio C. Albo	Master.	STCW Endorsement	CC 935551
Philippines	00022.PHI	Napoleon G. Canut	Master	STCW Endorsement	AA 885711
Philippines	00022.PHI	Emmanuel B. Cabrieto	Chief Engineer	STCW Endorsement	-
Philippines	00022.PHI	Cleto G. Geamoga	Master	STCW Endorsement	-
Philippines	00022.PHI	Herminigildo S. Tarcena	Master	STCW Endorsement	BB 127444
Philippines	00022.PHI	Carlos Y. Belin	Master	STCW Endorsement	226972
Philippines	00022.PHI	Nasario R. Nadal	Master	STCW Endorsement	-
Philippines	00022.PHI	Leonardo A. Belin	Master	Certificate of Competency	-
Philippines	00023.PHI	Frangerous E. Cacho	Master	Certificate of Competency	-