



SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF  
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING  
33rd session  
Agenda item 6

STW 33/6/2  
16 November 2001  
Original: ENGLISH

## **UNLAWFUL PRACTICES ASSOCIATED WITH CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY**

**Submitted by Vanuatu**

### **SUMMARY**

**Executive summary:** This document makes proposals for eliminating the use of fraudulent Certificates of Competency

**Action to be taken:** Paragraph 12

**Related documents:** MSC 74/24 paragraphs 6.21 to 6.29 inclusive and MSC/Circ.900

### **The purpose of the paper**

1 Vanuatu contributed to discussions at MSC 74 and Council 86 on the problems associated with fraudulent Certificates of Competency. This submission is intended to assist in eliminating these problems. The paper is also intended to partially respond to the questions raised by Vanuatu in paragraph 6.25 of MSC 74/24.

### **IMO to be the focal point**

2 The firm view of Vanuatu, which is probably shared by all countries, is that concerted action to eliminate fraudulent practices should be taken through IMO.

### **Detection of fraudulent certificates**

3 The great majority of fraudulent certificates are detected either during STCW 95, regulation I/10 procedures or during port State control inspections. It is consequently proposed that all parties follow the procedures outlined in sections 4 and 5 hereunder.

### **Fraudulent certificates detected during regulation I/10 verification procedures**

4 Fraudulent certificates detected during regulation I/10 verification procedures should be reported to IMO at monthly intervals in the form shown in annex of this paper.

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly asked to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

**Fraudulent certificates detected during Port State Control inspections**

5 Following completion of the PSC action, the PSCO should forward to IMO the particulars of the case shown in annex of this paper as soon as practicable.

**Fraudulent certificate holders already identified**

6 Many fraudulent certificate holders have already been identified both by Member States and the researchers from the Seafarers International Research Centre (SIRC), Cardiff University, a full text of whose Report will be available at STW 33. Member States should be invited to forward details of such cases in the form shown in annex of this paper. The SIRC should be invited to similarly submit information on the fraudulent certificate holders positively identified during their research.

**Role of the IMO Secretariat**

7 The IMO Secretariat should be requested to maintain a register of persons identified as attempting to use, or using, fraudulent certificates or otherwise involved in fraudulent practices.

8 The information requested in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 above would form a comprehensive register. This register should be published on the IMO secure website.

**Advantages of the proposals**

9 Vanuatu has supplied IMO (STW 31/6/1, STW 32/6/1) with the details of fraudulent certificates identified during its scrutiny of certificates submitted for endorsement under regulation I/10 procedures.

10 Since the identities of the culprits were published in IMO documents, the number of fraudulent certificates identified by Vanuatu has fallen drastically.

11 Vanuatu believes that the same result would be achieved on a worldwide basis if all Member States implemented the proposals in this paper.

**Action to be taken**

12 The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the proposals in paragraphs 4, 5, 6, and 7 of this paper and take action accordingly.

\*\*\*

ANNEX

| Country | Case No. | Name | Rank/Rating | Fraudulent Document | Passport No. |
|---------|----------|------|-------------|---------------------|--------------|
|         |          |      |             |                     |              |
|         |          |      |             |                     |              |
|         |          |      |             |                     |              |
|         |          |      |             |                     |              |
|         |          |      |             |                     |              |
|         |          |      |             |                     |              |
|         |          |      |             |                     |              |
|         |          |      |             |                     |              |
|         |          |      |             |                     |              |
|         |          |      |             |                     |              |
|         |          |      |             |                     |              |

\_\_\_\_\_

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly asked to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.