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SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING
35th session
Agenda item 2

STW 35/2/1
4 November 2003
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DECISIONS OF OTHER IMO BODIES

Decisions of other Sub-Committees

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	The document lists decisions of other Sub-Committees relevant to the work of the Sub-Committee
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 9
<i>Related documents:</i>	COMSAR 7/23, DE 46/32, NAV 49/19, STW 35/4, STW 35/6, STW 35/8/1 and STW 35/18/1.

1 Decisions of the seventh session of the Sub-Committee on Radio Communications and Search and Rescue (13 to 17 January 2003), forty-sixth session of the Sub-Committee on Design and Equipment (10 to 19 March 2003), and forty-ninth session of the Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation (30 June to 4 July 2003) relevant to the work of the Sub-Committee are referred to in paragraphs below:

2 References in bold are to the Sub-Committee's provisional agenda (STW 35/1):

Validation of Model Training Courses (Agenda item 3)

GMDSS Coast Station Radio Operator's Course (CSOC)

3 COMSAR 7 supported the development of a draft GMDSS Coast Radio Station Operator's Course (CSOC), as outlined in document COMSAR 7/7/2 (United Kingdom) as a common training standard for submission to JWG 10 and COMSAR 8 for consideration and endorsement and subsequent validation by the STW Sub-Committee as an IMO Model course (COMSAR 7/23, paragraph 7.11).

Watchkeeping at anchor (Agenda item 4)

4 NAV 49 considered the request of STW 34 to provide advice on the conditions and circumstances upon which a decision may be made to maintain a continuous watch at anchor and developed a note for STW 35 given at annex 19 (see document STW 35/4) and instructed the Secretariat to forward it to STW 35 (NAV 49/19, paragraph 18.22 and annex 19).

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Large passenger ship safety (Agenda item 6)

5 COMSAR 7 endorsed the 35 recommendations given in paragraph 21.1 to 21.35 of the report of the SAR working group (COMSAR 7/WP.5 and Add.1 and 2) and, recognizing that these needed to be taken into account also by other relevant sub-committees involved in the work on Large passenger ship safety, agreed to refer them to MSC 77 for consideration (COMSAR 7/23, paragraph 10.6) (see document STW 35/6).

Measures to prevent accidents with lifeboats (Agenda item 8)**Guidance on safety during abandon ship drills and fire drills on board ships and amendments to SOLAS regulations III/19.3.3.3 and III/19.3.3.4**

6 DE 46 considered and agreed on the following list of issues for referral to STW 35:

- .1 generally consider improvements in safety training regarding maintenance of lifeboats and associated equipment and safe practices during lifeboat drills with regard to lifeboat accidents and the outcome of DE 46, taking into account document DE 46/9 (see document STW 35/8/1);
- .2 consider relevant improvement of safety training, facilitating an alternative to on-board training as relevant for free-fall lifeboats, as included in the proposed amended regulation III/19.3.3.4 (see document STW 35/8/1);
- .3 develop means of recording participation in free-fall launches;
- .4 consider shore-based training as an alternative to on-board training with lifeboats in general; and
- .5 submit relevant draft amendments to MSC 78 for approval with a view to adoption.

6 DE 46 noted that the draft amendments to regulation III/19.3.3.4 were questioned by several delegations with regard to the way to achieve the proposed expected enhancement of crew's training for the use of free-fall lifeboats on a mandatory basis, and the implicit different level of requirements for the different types of life-saving appliances. The delegation of the Bahamas, supported by other delegations, questioned the need for mandatory participation in free-fall lifeboat launches every 18 months when there were no mandatory requirements to participate regularly in the launch of any other type of life-saving appliance. The delegation reserved its position on this issue.

7 References are to document DE 46/32, paragraphs 9.34, 9.36 to 9.38 and 9.40.

Any other business (Agenda item 18)**Guidance on early abandonment of bulk carriers**

8 DE 46 agreed to the draft Guidelines on early assessment of hull damage and possible need for abandonment of bulk carriers, together with the associated draft MSC circular and referred them to NAV 49 and STW 35 with respect to any necessary training requirements for masters for concurrence prior to approval by MSC 78 (DE 46/32, paragraph 19.7) (see document STW 35/18/1).

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

9 The Sub-Committee is invited to note the above information and to take action as appropriate.
