



SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING
36th session
Agenda item 2

STW 36/2/Add.1
18 October 2004
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DECISIONS OF OTHER IMO BODIES

Outcome of MSC 79

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This document provides guidance for the work of STW 36 in the context of relevant decisions of MSC 79
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 3
<i>Related document:</i>	MSC 79/23

1 Extracts from the report of the seventy-ninth session of the Maritime Safety Committee (1 to 10 December 2004), as contained in the report of the session (MSC 79/23), concerning the Sub-Committee, are attached hereto.

2 The Sub-Committee's work programme and provisional agenda for STW 36 approved by MSC 78, was confirmed by MSC 79, amending agenda item 5 to 'Passenger Ship Safety'.

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

3 The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the information provided in this document and take action as appropriate.

ANNEX

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE SEVENTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE (MSC 79/23) IN THE SAME ORDER AND PARAGRAPH NUMBERING AS CONTAINED IN MSC 79/23

3 CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO MANDATORY INSTRUMENTS

Adoption of amendments to the STCW Code

3.118 The expanded Committee, including delegations of 95 Parties to the 1978 STCW Convention, considered the final text of the proposed amendments to section A-I/2 of part A of the STCW Code prepared by the drafting group (MSC 79/WP.14, annex 12) and adopted the amendments unanimously by resolution MSC.180(79), as set out in annex 14.

3.119 In adopting resolution MSC.180(79), the expanded Committee determined, in accordance with article XII(1)(a)(vii)(2) of the 1978 STCW Convention, that the adopted amendments to the STCW Code should be deemed to have been accepted on 1 January 2006 (unless, prior to that date, objections are communicated to the Secretary-General as provided for in article XII(1)(a)(vii) of the Convention) and should enter into force on 1 July 2006, in accordance with the provisions of article XII of the 1978 STCW Convention.

4 LARGE PASSENGER SHIP SAFETY

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP

Work plan on passenger ship safety

4.12 Having considered the above views, the Committee agreed that the word “large” should be deleted from the title of this agenda and that the working group and subsidiary bodies should continue to develop relevant parameters, as necessary, for application purposes of any proposed requirements and recommendations, bearing in mind that a “one size fits all approach” should be avoided since each area of safety (i.e. fire, machinery, stability, lifesaving, search and rescue, etc.) have different concerns.

4.22 The Committee approved the revised work plan, as set out in annex 3 to document MSC 79/WP.13, and forwarded it to the COMSAR, DE, FP, NAV, SLF and STW Sub-Committees for action as appropriate. The Committee also conveyed the group’s report, in its entirety, to the relevant sub-committees for background purposes and further instructed the relevant sub-committees to keep the Committee informed of their progress on matters assigned.

4.23 The Committee agreed to the revised guiding philosophy, strategic goals and objectives, as set out in annex 1 to document MSC 79/WP.13, and expressed the view that, taken as a total package, including the group’s reports from previous sessions, there was enough information to allow the sub-committees to complete their assigned tasks by 2006.

5 MEASURES TO ENHANCE MARITIME SECURITY

RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE SAFE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS CARGOES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES IN PORT AREAS (MSC/Circ.675)

5.15 The Committee noted the discussions, during DSC 9, relating to the revision of the Recommendations on the safe transport of dangerous cargoes and related activities in port areas (MSC/Circ.675) and:

- .1 invited the MEPC to consider those aspects of the revision of MSC/Circ.675 (DSC 9/15, annex 7) which fall under its purview, subject to the comments set out in paragraph 12.3 of document MSC 79/5/Add.1;
- .2 instructed the BLG and STW Sub-Committees to consider those aspects of the revision of MSC/Circ.675 (DSC 9/15, annex 7) which fall under their purview, subject to the comments set out in paragraph 12.3 of document MSC 79/5/Add.1; and
- .3 designated the DSC Sub-Committee as the co-ordinating Sub-Committee in relation to the continuation and completion of the process of the revision of MSC/Circ.675.

7 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STCW CONVENTION

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORTS PURSUANT TO STCW REGULATION I/7, PARAGRAPH 2

7.8 The Committee confirmed that the procedures for the assessment of information provided had been correctly followed in respect of the one STCW Party included in the Secretary-General's report and instructed the Secretariat to prepare a draft MSC circular (along the lines of those approved previously, namely MSC/Circs.978, 996, 1018, 1031, 1066, 1092 and 1121) attaching a list of Parties so far found to be giving the STCW Convention full and complete effect, including the one confirmed by the current session. The Committee also confirmed that the procedures for assessment of information provided had been correctly followed in respect of the other STCW Party which had communicated additional information pursuant to regulation I/10 of the STCW Convention, included in the Secretary-General's report.

7.9 Having considered the draft MSC circular (MSC 79/WP.10), the Committee approved MSC/Circ.1134 on Parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended, confirmed by the Maritime Safety Committee to have communicated information which demonstrates that full and complete effect is given to the relevant provisions of the Convention, listing all the STCW Parties so far confirmed.

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORT PURSUANT TO STCW REGULATION I/8

7.15 The Committee confirmed that the procedures for the assessment of information provided had been correctly followed in respect of 19 STCW Parties bearing in mind that MSC 77 had agreed that any information on the outcome of this process with respect to reports on independent evaluation required by STCW regulation I/8, should not be promulgated until MSC 80.

APPROVAL OF COMPETENT PERSONS

7.16 The Committee approved additional competent persons nominated by Governments (MSC 79/7/1 and Add.1) and instructed the Secretariat to update MSC/Circ.797/Rev.10 accordingly and issue the updated circular as MSC/Circ.797/Rev.11.

DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETENCE FOR RATINGS (OUTCOME OF THE ILO PREPARATORY TECHNICAL CONFERENCE)

7.19 Having recalled that MSC 78 had noted that MSC 79, on receipt of the outcome of the ILO Preparatory Technical Conference, would be in a position to instruct STW 36 to consider the issue and the possible implications arising from standards for training related to ratings being regulated by the Organization and to suggest the best way forward, the Committee noted the outcome of the ILO Preparatory Technical Conference (MSC 79/7/2), and instructed STW 36 to do as mentioned above and report to MSC 80.

7.21 The ISF observer informed the Committee that BIMCO/ISF were in the process of updating the 2000 BIMCO/ISF manpower study and would be sending questionnaires to Member Governments to ascertain the manpower supply numbers. The ISF observer requested Member Governments to support this effort and to respond to the questionnaire.

Information received from STCW Parties

7.22 The Committee noted the information provided by Belgium (MSC 79/INF.7) related to verification of certificates of competency and instructed the Secretariat to amend the website accordingly.

8 SHIP DESIGN AND EQUIPMENT

Measures to prevent accidents with lifeboats

8.7 As proposed by the Sub-Committee, the Committee approved:

- .1 MSC/Circ.1136 on Guidance on safety during abandon ship drills using lifeboats;
and
- .2 MSC/Circ.1137 on Guidelines for simulated launching of free-fall lifeboats,

and endorsed the updated work plan for measures to prevent accidents with lifeboats.

9 FLAG STATE IMPLEMENTATION

Casualty-related matters

9.6 The Committee decided to refer to STW 36, for consideration, as appropriate, the casualty analyses information relating to training issues for passenger ships collected by the Sub-Committee (STW 36/16/7).

13 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SUB-PROGRAMME IN MARITIME SAFETY

IMO MODEL COURSE PROGRAMME

13.13 The Committee noted the information on the further progress made under the IMO model course programme (MSC 78/17/1 and MSC 79/13/2) and expressed its appreciation to the Government of India and IACS for their support in the preparation and revision of several courses.

13.14 The Committee agreed with the FSI Sub-Committee's recommendation, and the related decision of the MEPC (MEPC 52/24, paragraph 10.14), that the one-week course on flag State implementation be included in the IMO programme of model courses, thereby ensuring that it is regularly updated, translated into French and Spanish and made available to all.

13.15 The Committee requested the Secretariat to report further developments on the IMO model course programme to MSC 80.

17 IMPLEMENTATION OF INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED MATTERS

Acceptance and implementation of the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol and the 1995 STCW-F Convention

17.7 On the promotion of the implementation and eventual entry into force of the 1995 STCW-F Convention, the Committee noted that document MSC 78/17 provided information on planned activities for 2004 and was informed that a regional seminar and workshop on the implementation of that Convention had been planned for the Caribbean region from 11 to 15 October 2004, in St. George's, Grenada, but the event was cancelled due to the devastating effect of Hurricane Ivan and will be rescheduled in due course.

17.8 In the same context, the Committee noted that the ITCP for 2004-2005 included a specific programme of seminars and workshops targeting technical assistance for national Administrations to address specific needs, on demand, relating to the ratification and implementation of the 1995 STCW-F Convention; and that its thematic priorities for the ITCP covering the 2006-2007 biennium (MSC 79/13/1/Add.1) included the promotion of the acceptance of the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol and the 1995 STCW-F Convention as well as proactive safety measures relating to fishing vessels and their personnel.

19 APPLICATION OF THE COMMITTEE'S GUIDELINES

New reporting procedures and related matters

19.3 The Committee recalled that the new reporting procedure had been put to trial by all nine Sub-Committees (SLF and DSC Sub-Committees having applied it twice) and noted their views on the results of such trials (MSC 78/23 and MSC 79/19/1/Add.3), together with the related views of the Chairmen's Meeting (MSC 78/WP.9 and Corr.1). The Committee noted also that C 92 had authorized it to make appropriate decisions on the future of the new reporting procedure for implementation by the Sub-Committees during the first half of 2005, taking into account the views of MEPC 52 (MSC 79/19/1).

19.4 During discussion, all delegations that intervened expressed the view that the trial reporting procedure had entailed the loss of historical and background information, as well as a summary of the various positions taken during debates, which was not helpful either for delegations at home or for new representatives coming to IMO meetings. In recommending a return to the previous practice, it was nonetheless acknowledged that improvements in the reporting procedures should continue to be sought.

19.5 The Committee, noting further that MEPC 52 had recommended that the trial new reporting procedure be halted and the previous reporting procedure be re-established (MSC 79/19/1/Add.3), and that C 93 had agreed with that recommendation, subject to a concurrent decision by MSC 79 (MSC 79/2/1/Add.1), decided to halt the trial new reporting procedure and to re-establish the previous reporting procedure with immediate effect and instructed the Secretariat to inform the Council, at its ninety-fourth session, of its decision. Notwithstanding that decision, the Committee noted with appreciation the Secretariat's intention to continue with the practice of placing all working papers on the secure IMO website.

19.6 The Committee was advised that the Secretariat would endeavour to make available the final version of the Committee's and sub-committees' reports on the secure IMO website, or in hard copy, as early as possible following the end of the meetings.

19.7 The Committee also took note of the outcome of the Chairmen's Meeting on related matters, including the list of actions requested of the Committees in the reports of Sub-Committees (MSC 78/WP.9, paragraph 14), and the role and responsibilities of chairmen and vice-chairmen of sub-committees (MSC 78/WP.9, paragraphs 15 and 16).

News media attendance at IMO meetings and related amendments to the rules of procedure of the Committee

19.9 The Committee recalled that, on the issue of news media attendance at IMO meetings, the Secretariat document submitted to its previous session (MSC 78/23/2) and the corresponding outcome of the 2004 Chairmen's Meeting (MSC 78/WP.9, paragraph 23) had been overtaken by events since C 92 had adopted Guidelines for media access to meetings of Committees and their subsidiary bodies (MSC 79/19/1) and that, as a consequence, a media accreditation system (MSC 79/19/1/Add.1) had been established by the Secretariat and was already in operation.

19.10 The Committee recalled also that, in adopting the aforementioned Guidelines, the Council instructed the IMO bodies to follow them and to amend their respective Rules of Procedure as necessary. In this regard, the Committee noted that FAL 31, MEPC 52 and LEG 89 had adopted amendments to their respective Rules of Procedure in accordance with the instruction of the Council (MSC 79/19/1/Add.2, annex), and that the TCC would consider the issue at its fifty-fifth session.

19.11 Having noted the approach taken by the MEPC, the Committee agreed to take the same amendments, as adopted by MEPC 52 and adopted an amendment to Rule 8 (Publicity) of its Rules of Procedure, as set out in annex 42.

Terms of reference of the sub-committees

19.12 The Committee recalled that:

- .1 the COMSAR, DE, FP, FSI, NAV, SLF and STW Sub-Committees had, in accordance with the instruction given at MSC 76, drawn up their proposed terms of reference (MSC 78/23/3);
- .2 the DSC Sub-Committee had also done so at its ninth session (MSC 79/12 and DSC 9/15, annex 9);
- .3 at its eighth session, the BLG Sub-Committee, having considered its existing terms of reference, agreed that more time was necessary to finalize work on this issue (MSC 78/23/3, paragraph 3);
- .4 the Chairmen's Meeting discussed the proposed terms of reference of the Sub-Committees (except those of the DSC and BLG Sub-Committees), agreed upon a number of points that should be generic to all sub-committees (MSC 78/WP.9, paragraph 5), and recommended that the Secretariat revise the terms of reference to reflect those points and resubmit them to the sub-committees for further consideration; and
- .5 MEPC 52 noted the aforementioned points, requested the Committee to take them into account at its present session, and agreed to consider the matter further at MEPC 53 (MSC 79/19/2).

19.13 Following discussion, the Committee instructed the Secretariat to revise the terms of reference of the sub-committees in consultation with their respective Chairmen, taking into account the points agreed by the Chairmen's Meeting (MSC 78/WP.9, paragraph 5), the views of MEPC 52, as well as its own views, and submit them to MSC 80 and, as a consequence, to the next Chairmen's Meeting, for final consideration and approval by that session of the Committee and by MEPC 53.

19.14 Recalling its earlier decision that there was no immediate need to change the existing structure of the sub-committees, as subsequently noted also by the Council and the Assembly, the Committee endorsed the recommendation of the Chairmen's Meeting (MSC 78/WP.9, paragraph 7) that, at this stage, it should not pursue any further the consolidation under one sub-committee (i.e. DE, FP or COMSAR Sub-Committee) of the responsibility for escape, evacuation and recovery, or the change of name for the COMSAR Sub-Committee.

20 WORK PROGRAMME

WORK PROGRAMMES OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES AND PROVISIONAL AGENDAS FOR THEIR FORTHCOMING SESSIONS

SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING (STW)

Work programme of the Sub-Committee and provisional agenda for STW 36

20.35 The Sub-Committee's work programme, as revised and approved by the Committee, is set out in annex 43.

20.36 The Committee confirmed the approval of the provisional agenda for STW 36, as set out in annex 44.