



SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF  
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING  
39th session  
Agenda item 4

STW 39/4  
19 December 2007  
Original: ENGLISH

## UNLAWFUL PRACTICES ASSOCIATED WITH CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY

### Reports of fraudulent certificates

#### Note by the Secretariat

##### SUMMARY

|                            |                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Executive summary:</i>  | This document provides information on reports received by the Secretariat on fraudulent certificates detected |
| <i>Action to be taken:</i> | Paragraph 4                                                                                                   |
| <i>Related documents:</i>  | STW 33/17; STW 38/4 and STW 38/17                                                                             |

1 The Sub-Committee, at its thirty-third session (21 to 25 January 2002), discussed a proposal that:

- .1 fraudulent certificates detected during regulation I/10 verification procedures should be reported to IMO; and
- .2 following completion of the Port State Control action, the Port State Control Officer should forward to IMO the particulars of the case as soon as practicable,

and agreed that timely exchange of information was an important and practical measure to help prevent unlawful practices associated with certificates of competency.

2 Since the thirty-fourth session of the Sub-Committee (24 to 28 February 2003), the Secretariat has received information from a number of flag and port States, shipping companies and seafarers detailing examples of fraudulent certificates found on board ships during inspections or reportedly being used.

3 The Maritime Safety Committee at its eighty-third session (3 to 12 October 2007) approved the revised format relating to reporting of fraudulent certificates detected and urged Member Governments and international organizations to use it when reporting the detection of fraudulent certificates to the Secretariat. A summary of these reports received for the year 2007 is set out at annex.

#### Action requested of the Sub-Committee

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

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## ANNEX

## SUMMARY OF REPORTS RECEIVED ON FRAUDULENT CERTIFICATES RECEIVED

| Date            | Flag of ship | Document claimed to be issued by | Type of document found to be fraudulent | Type of fraud           | Where and when reported/detected | Method of detection          | Action taken                                                                    | Comments                                                            |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 30 March 2006   | Cambodia     | Unknown                          | Certificate of competency as Master     | Withdrawn and not valid | Trabzon<br>30 March 2007         | Checked the validity by mail | The certificate holder was signed off                                           | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 30 March 2006   | Cambodia     | Unknown                          | Certificate of competency as GMDSS GOC  | Withdrawn and not valid | Trabzon<br>30 March 2007         | Checked the validity by mail | The certificate holder was signed off                                           | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 30 March 2006   | Cambodia     | Unknown                          | Certificate of competency as CHF, ENG   | Withdrawn and not valid | Trabzon<br>30 March 2007         | Checked the validity by mail | The certificate holder was signed off                                           | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 10 October 2006 | Georgia      | Unknown                          | Certificate of competency as Master     | Forged Certificate      | Trabzon<br>10 October 2006       | Checked the validity by mail | Detained/ The certificate's holder was signed off and attorney general informed | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 10 October 2006 | Georgia      | Unknown                          | Certificate of competency as GMDSS GOC  | Forged Certificate      | Trabzon<br>10 October 2006       | Checked the validity by mail | Detained/ The certificate's holder was signed off and attorney general informed | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 10 October 2006 | Georgia      | Unknown                          | Certificate of competency as Master     | Forged Certificate      | Trabzon<br>10 October 2006       | Checked the validity by mail | Detained/ The certificate's holder was signed off and attorney general informed | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 10 October 2006 | Georgia      | Unknown                          | Certificate of competency as GMDSS GOC  | Forged Certificate      | Trabzon<br>10 October 2006       | Checked the validity by mail | Detained/ The certificate's holder was signed off and attorney general informed | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 10 October 2006 | Panama       | Unknown                          | Certificate of competency as 2ND ENG    | Forged Certificate      | Trabzon<br>10 October 2006       | Checked the validity by mail | Detained/ The certificate's holder was signed off and attorney general informed | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |

|                  |              |          |                                         |                                      |                                                       |                                           |                                                                                 |                                                                     |
|------------------|--------------|----------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7 November 2006  | Panama       | Unknown  | Certificate of competency as CHF. ENG.  | Forged Certificate                   | Trabzon<br>7 November 2006                            | Checked the validity by mail              | Detained/ The certificate's holder was signed off and attorney general informed | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 16 November 2006 | Cambodia     | Unknown  | Certificate of competency as CHF. OFF.  | Forged Certificate                   | Trabzon<br>16 November 2006                           | Checked the validity by mail              | Detained/ The certificate's holder was signed off and attorney general informed | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 16 November 2006 | Cambodia     | Unknown  | Certificate of competency as CHF. OFF.  | Forged Certificate                   | Trabzon<br>16 November 2006                           | Checked the validity by mail              | Detained/ The certificate's holder was signed off and attorney general informed | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 19 March 2007    | Malta        | Unknown  | Certificate of competency as Master     | Forged Certificate                   | Trabzon<br>19 March 2007                              | Checked the validity by mail              | Detained/ The certificate's holder was signed off and attorney general informed | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 19 March 2007    | Malta        | Unknown  | Certificate of competency as GMDSS GOC  | Forged Certificate                   | Trabzon<br>19 March 2007                              | Checked the validity by mail              | Detained/ The certificate's holder was signed off and attorney general informed | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 2 April 2007     | Sierra Leone | Unknown  | Certificate of competency as Master     | Withdrawn and not valid              | Trabzon<br>2 April 2007                               | Checked the validity by mail              | The certificate holder was signed off                                           | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 2 April 2007     | Sierra Leone | Unknown  | Certificate of competency as GMDSS GOC  | Withdrawn and not valid              | Trabzon<br>2 April 2007                               | Checked the validity by mail              | The certificate holder was signed off                                           | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 2 April 2007     | Sierra Leone | Unknown  | Certificate of competency as CHF. ENG   | Withdrawn and not valid              | Trabzon<br>2 April 2007                               | Checked the validity by mail              | The certificate holder was signed off                                           | The issuing authority was shown as Georgia Maritime Administration. |
| 14 April 2007    | Iran         | Pakistan | Certificate of competency as Chief Mate | Fraudulent Certificate of Competency | Before issue of certificate by Iranian Administration | By verification through the issuing party | Recognition certificate was suspended and issuing party was notified            |                                                                     |
| 14 April 2007    | Iran         | Pakistan | Certificate of competency as Chief Mate | Fraudulent Certificate of Competency | Before issue of certificate by Iranian Administration | By verification through the issuing party | Recognition certificate was suspended and issuing party was notified            |                                                                     |

|                |                    |                       |                                                      |                        |                  |  |                                                 |  |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|--|-------------------------------------------------|--|
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Panama                | Certificate of competency as Third officer           | Fraudulent certificate | 21 December 2006 |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Panama                | Certificate of competency as Master                  | Fraudulent certificate | 21 December 2006 |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Panama                | Certificate of competency as Chief Mate              | Fraudulent certificate | 21 December 2006 |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Ukraine               | Engine room rating watchkeeping certificate          | Fraudulent certificate | 25 January 2007  |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | India                 | Certificate of competency as second engineer officer | Fraudulent certificate | 6 March 2007     |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | India                 | Certificate of competency as second mate             | Fraudulent certificate | 9 March 2007     |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Panama                | Certificate of competency as chief engineer          | Fraudulent certificate | 15 March 2007    |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Serbia and Montenegro | Certificate of competency as second engineer officer | Fraudulent certificate | 23 March 2007    |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | India                 | Engine room rating watchkeeping certificate          | Fraudulent certificate | 13 March 2007    |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | India                 | Navigational rating watchkeeping certificate         | Fraudulent certificate | 12 April 2007    |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Myanmar               | Certificate of competency as Second Engineer officer | Fraudulent certificate | 2 May 2007       |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |

|                |                    |                             |                                                      |                        |               |  |                                                 |  |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|--|-------------------------------------------------|--|
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Myanmar                     | Certificate of competency as Chief Engineer officer  | Fraudulent certificate | 2 May 2007    |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Myanmar                     | Certificate of competency as Second Engineer officer | Fraudulent certificate | 3 May 2007    |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Georgia                     | Certificate of competency as Chief Engineer officer  | Fraudulent certificate | 21 May 2007   |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | United Republic of Tanzania | Certificate of competency as Chief Engineer officer  | Fraudulent certificate | 21 May 2007   |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Pakistan                    | Certificate of competency as Chief Engineer officer  | Fraudulent certificate | 30 May 2007   |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Georgia                     | Certificate of competency as Master                  | Fraudulent certificate | 26 April 2007 |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Georgia                     | Certificate of competency as Master                  | Fraudulent certificate | 26 April 2007 |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Georgia                     | Certificate of competency as Master                  | Fraudulent certificate | 26 April 2007 |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Myanmar                     | Certificate of competency as Chief Mate              | Fraudulent certificate | 11 June 2007  |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Liberia                     | Certificate of competency as Chief Mate              | Fraudulent certificate | 27 June 2007  |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Vanuatu                     | Certificate of competency as Master                  | Fraudulent certificate | 28 June 2007  |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Georgia                     | Certificate of competency as Master                  | Fraudulent certificate | 29 June 2007  |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |

|                |                    |           |                                                      |                        |                   |  |                                                 |  |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|--|-------------------------------------------------|--|
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Georgia   | Certificate of competency as Second Engineer officer | Fraudulent certificate | 23 July 2007      |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Myanmar   | Certificate of competency as Master                  | Fraudulent certificate | 2 August 2007     |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Myanmar   | Certificate of competency as Chief Mate              | Fraudulent certificate | 2 August 2007     |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Myanmar   | Certificate of competency as OOW - Navigational      | Fraudulent certificate | 2 August 2007     |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Georgia   | Certificate of competency as Master                  | Fraudulent certificate | 6 September 2007  |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Sri Lanka | Certificate of competency as Chief Engineer          | Fraudulent certificate | 19 September 2007 |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Panama    | Certificate of competency as Chief officer           | Fraudulent certificate | 21 September 2007 |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Panama    | Certificate of competency as First Engineer officer  | Fraudulent certificate | 21 September 2007 |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Panama    | Certificate of competency as Second Engineer officer | Fraudulent certificate | 21 September 2007 |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | India     | Certificate of competency as Chief Mate              | Fraudulent certificate | 21 September 2007 |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |
| 1 October 2007 | St Kitts and Nevis | Georgia   | Certificate of competency as OOW – Navigational      | Fraudulent certificate | 26 April 2007     |  | Banned from serving on St Kitts and Nevis ships |  |