



SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING
39th session
Agenda item 7

STW 39/7/33
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COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE STCW CONVENTION AND THE STCW CODE

Regulation I/14 - Responsibilities of Companies

Submitted by the Philippines

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document proposes amendments to the STCW Convention to address the need to strengthen the responsibilities of companies relating to continuous familiarization training on all professional subjects involving both on-board and shore-based training

Action to be taken: Paragraph 9

Related document: STW 38/17

Background

1 The Sub-Committee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping at its thirty-eighth session, agreed that the proposed comprehensive review of the STCW Convention and the STCW Code should address requirement to strengthen the responsibilities of shipping companies (STW 38/17, paragraph 12.66).

Discussion

2 The sophistication and rapid evolution of marine equipment necessitates re-training of seafarers for maintaining competency and to adapt proficiently to technological advances. Germany et al propose the possibility of using innovative training methodologies, especially with regards to theoretical training, by means of distance learning methods (such as e-learning, on-line learning, computer based training and correspondence course) to address this concern.

3 The rapid development in digital business processes globally from the booking of cargoes until its safe discharge requires seafarer's greater performance at all levels and at all times.

4 The need to comply with regulatory policies and the need to satisfy the economic return of ship business put great pressure to seafarers that unless modern technologies are properly applied the safety of life and property at sea will be in jeopardy.

Recommendation

5 Companies must provide the technological tools necessary to help seafarers perform safely on-board. Innovative training methodologies must also be employed on both shore-based and on-board training.

6 Shore-based training programs must be specific to the ship of employment and seafarer position in order to make the training and familiarization direct and more effective to real-world application.

7 Accordingly, it is proposed that additional provisions in paragraph 1 of regulation I/14 be included in the definition of companies' responsibilities, as set out in the annex.

8 Furthermore, these responsibilities should be defined and implemented as part of the Safety Management System in accordance with the International Safety Management Code.

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

9 The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the above proposal and decide as it deems appropriate.

ANNEX

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS (STCW), 1978 AS AMENDED

Regulation I/14

Responsibilities of companies

1 The following text is to be inserted at the end of sub-paragraph .5:

- “6 seafarers are given by shipowners continuous familiarization training in all professional subjects involving both onboard and shore-based training including limitations of automatic systems and on environmental awareness, particularly oily water separator;
 - .7 ships are equipped with facilities for distance learning (i.e. on-line learning, computer-based training and correspondence courses);
 - .8 seafarers are provided technological tools/gadgets necessary to help them perform safely on board.”
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