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HUMAN ELEMENT, TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING

Comments on document MSC 102/13

Submitted by ICS

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document comments on the report of the sixth session of the Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping, specifically the action requested of the Committee to adopt the draft MSC resolution on amendments to table B-I/2 of the STCW Code. It proposes a minor correction to the "Notes" located under the draft revised table to ensure their alignment with the provisions of the STCW Convention and Code.

Strategic direction, if applicable: 1

Output: 1.21 (2018-2019 biennium)

Action to be taken: Paragraph 15

Related documents: MSC 98/23; HTW 5/16; HTW 6/5, HTW 6/5/1, HTW 6/13 and MSC 102/13

1 This document is submitted in accordance with paragraph 6.11.5 of the *Organization and method of work of the Maritime Safety Committee and the Marine Environment Protection Committee and their subsidiary bodies* (MSC-MEPC.1/Circ.5/Rev.1), and comments on the report of the sixth session of the Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW 6), specifically the action requested of the Committee to adopt the draft MSC resolution on amendments to table B-I/2 of the STCW Code.

2 The Committee, at its ninety-eighth session, agreed to rename the output on "Guidance for the implementation of the 2010 Manila Amendments" as "Guidance for STCW Code, section B-I/2" (MSC 98/23, paragraph 9.2).

3 At HTW 5, various proposals for draft amendments to table B-I/1 were considered and a correspondence group was established to further progress the work for finalization at HTW 6 (HTW 5/16, paragraphs 5.4 to 5.6).

4 HTW 6 considered document HTW 6/5 (India), providing the report of the Correspondence Group on Amendments to Table B-I/2 of the STCW Code, and document HTW 6/5/1 (ICS), proposing draft amendments to table B-I/2 to improve the clarity of the guidance for STCW Parties, Administrations, PSC authorities, recognized organizations and other relevant stakeholders. The Sub-Committee finalized and agreed to the draft amendments to table B-I/2 of the STCW Code, as set out in annex 5 of document HTW 6/13, for submission to the Committee with a view to adoption at MSC 102.

5 As a result, the Committee is being invited in paragraph 2.5 of document MSC 102/13 to adopt the draft MSC resolution on amendments to table B-I/2 of the STCW Code.

6 The purpose of this document is to comment on the "Notes" located under the draft revised table B-I/2 and, prior to adoption by the Committee, propose a minor correction to ensure the table is aligned with the provisions of the STCW Convention and Code.

Discussion

7 ICS recalls that the principles underpinning the revision of table B-I/2 were that it needs to be clear and simple for its end -users because it is used as the main overview of certificates described in the STCW Convention, and considers that the "Notes" located under table B-I/2 are intended to provide additional guidance and explanations on some of the complexities related to certificates that cannot be adequately reflected in the table.

8 "Note 7" under the revised table is as follows:

"75 The certificates of competency issued in accordance with regulations II/1, II/2, II/3, III/1, III/2, III/3, III/6 and VII/2 include the proficiency requirements in "basic training", "survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats", "advanced fire fighting", and "medical first aid" and "medical care", therefore, holders of mentioned certificates of competency are not required to carry Certificates of Proficiency in respect of those competences of chapter VI."

9 ICS notes that the above indicates that "medical care" was added to the above "Note" because there are normal circumstances where a certificate of competency may attest to its holder meeting the proficiency requirements for "medical care", which is recognized by STCW regulation VI/4, paragraph 3:

"3 Where training in medical first aid or medical care is not included in the qualifications for the certificate to be issued, a certificate of proficiency shall be issued indicating that the holder has attended a course of training in medical first aid or in medical care."

10 However, ICS notes that, whereas "basic training", "survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats", "advanced fire fighting" and "medical first aid" are explicitly referenced in STCW regulations II/1, II/3, III/1, III/6, "medical care" (STCW section A-VI/4, paragraphs 4 to 6) is not explicitly referenced in those regulations. For example, see STCW regulation II/1, paragraph 2.6:

".6 meet the standard of competence specified in section A-VI/1, paragraph 2, section A-VI/2, paragraphs 1 to 4, section A-VI/3, paragraphs 1 to 4 and section A-VI/4, paragraphs 1 to 3 of the STCW Code."

11 Therefore, ICS considers that precise alignment of the "Notes" with the provisions of the STCW Convention requires that "medical care" is not presented in the same list as "basic training", "survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats", "advanced fire fighting" and "medical first aid" in "Note 7".

12 ICS considers that the appropriate approach to providing guidance on the inclusion (or not) of "medical care" in the "Notes" would be to address it as in the guidance provided on "security awareness" training or training in "designated security duties" provided in "Note 10". It can be addressed as a minor correction by including a new "Note" to specifically address "medical care", which would ensure that none of other "Notes" finalized at HTW 6 are affected at this stage.

Proposal

13 ICS proposes the following new "Note", numbered as "11":

"11 Where training in medical first aid or medical care is not included in the qualifications for the certificate to be issued, a certificate of proficiency shall be issued indicating that the holder has attended a course of training in medical first aid or in medical care."

This proposal uses the exact text from the STCW Convention, specifically the text from STCW regulation VI/4, paragraph 3, which conveniently addresses the situation regarding certification for "medical first aid" and "medical care".

14 The following consequential amendments are required to implement the above:

- .1 "Medical care" should be deleted from "Note 7";
- .2 in the first of the two rows of the table starting with "VI/4" (i.e. on "medical first aid"), a ", 11" should be added after "7"; and
- .3 in the second of the two rows of the table starting with "VI/4" (i.e. on "medical care", the "7" should be deleted and replaced with "11".

Action request of the Committee

15 The Committee is invited to consider the discussion above, particularly the proposal provided in paragraphs 13 and 14, and take action as appropriate.