

DECISIONS OF OTHER IMO BODIES

Comments on Decisions of Other IMO Bodies

Submitted by the International Shipping Federation (ISF)

SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This document comments on STW 44/2 and draws attention to the Secretary General's reports pursuant to STW regulations 1/7 and 1/8 and three recent documents issued by the Maritime Safety Committee regarding effective implementation of the STCW Convention and Code. ISF encourages Flag States to provide IMO with timely reports regarding regulations 1/7, 1/8 and 1/10 of the STCW Convention.
<i>Strategic direction:</i>	5
<i>High-level action:</i>	5.2
<i>Planned output:</i>	5.2.2.4
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 9
<i>Related documents:</i>	STW 44/2; MSC.1 Circ 1448; MSC.1 Circ 1449; MSC.1 Circ 1450

Introduction

1. This submission is in accordance with document MSCMEPC.1/Circ.4/Rev 2 and the provisions of paragraph 6.12.5 of the Guidelines . The document comments on STW 44/2 and draws attention to the Secretary General's reports pursuant to STW regulations 1/7 and 1/8 and three recent documents issued by the Maritime Safety Committee regarding effective implementation of the STCW Convention and Code.(MSC.1 Circ 1448; MSC.1 Circ 1449; MSC.1 Circ 1450).
2. ISF recognises that in order for the STCW Convention to be effective it is essential for Parties to the Convention to have in place the necessary procedures and administrative support for effective compliance, reporting and inspection.

STCW White List

3. The parties to the STCW Convention, confirmed by the Maritime Safety Committee to have communicated information demonstrating that full and complete effect is given to the relevant provisions of the Convention, are listed with the Annex to MSC.1/Circ.1163. This Annex is known as the IMO STCW White list.

4. MSC.1/Circ.1164 promulgates information related to independent evaluation reports submitted by parties to the STCW Convention, confirmed by the Maritime Safety Committee to have communicated information demonstrating that Parties are giving full and complete effect to the relevant provisions of the Convention.
5. ISF observes that parties which have failed to communicate information in time in relation to continuing compliance, as shown with the Annex to circular MSC.1/Circ.1164, remain on the White List of parties communicating on initial compliance, (Annex to MSC.1/Circ.1163).
6. ISF also observes that in both the aforementioned circulars (paragraphs 4 and 6 respectively) it is stated that the relevant provisions giving full and complete effect may vary; *“not all STCW Parties in the annex provide seafarer training, and some may only provide a limited range of training”*.
7. ISF believes that it would be helpful for the global maritime community to be provided with more transparent information, by consolidating circulars MSC.1/Circ.1163 and MSC.1/Circ.1164, and by incorporating information regarding the extent of seafarer training (covering the relevant chapters of STCW, with a distinction between the three levels) that parties have communicated information on.
8. ISF encourages Flag States to provide IMO with timely reports in line with Regulations 1/7, 1/8 and 1/10 of the STCW Convention to assist the global community to evaluate actions taken by the respective States and help to identify any potential concerns on a timely basis.

Action Requested of the Committee

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