

SUB-COMMITTEE ON HUMAN ELEMENT,
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING
12th session
Agenda item 6

HTW 12/6/30
10 November 2025
Original: ENGLISH
Pre-session public release: ☒

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE 1978 STCW CONVENTION AND CODE

Proposed draft amendments to the STCW Code to address gaps nos.110, 145, 160, 163 and 226

Submitted by ICS

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document provides draft amendments to the STCW Code, in order to address gaps nos. 110, 145, 160, 163 and 226.

Strategic direction, if applicable: 6

Output: 6.17

Action to be taken: Paragraph 10

Related documents: HTW 11/11 and HTW 12/6

Background

1 The Sub-Committee, at its eleventh session, agreed to the list of gaps identified in the STCW Convention and Code, as set out in annex 1 to document HTW 11/WP.4. The Sub-Committee also agreed to the commencement of phase 2 of the comprehensive review (HTW 11/11, paragraphs 6.34 and 6.35).

2 This document provides draft amendments to the STCW Code, in order to address gap no.110, to specifically address outdated language used or missing reference concerning training record books within footnotes to sections A-II, A-III, B-II and B-III of the Code.

Discussion

3 ICS (International Chamber of Shipping) On-board Training Record Books are structured documents used to record and assess the practical training of seafarers during their sea service. They serve as evidence of structured training programs and help evaluate a seafarer's competence against the requirements of the STCW Convention and Code.

4 These books are essential for both trainees and supervising officers, as well as employers who need to verify the development of necessary skills. The training record books are recognized by several maritime Administrations representing resource-rich countries and flag Administrations alike.

- 5 ICS' suite of training record books comprise of:
- .1 [On Board Training Record Book for Officers in Charge of a Navigational Watch \(Deck Cadets\)](#) to support the requirements under regulation II/1;
 - .2 [On Board Training Record Book for Ratings Forming Part of a Navigational Watch and Ratings Qualifying As Able Seafarer Deck](#) to support the requirements under regulations II/4 and II/5;
 - .3 [On Board Training Record Book for Officers in Charge of an Engineering Watch \(Engine Cadets\)](#) to support the requirements under regulation III/1;
 - .4 [On Board Training Record Book for Ratings Forming Part of an Engineering Watch and Ratings Qualifying as Able Seafarer Engine](#) to support the requirements under regulations III/4 and III/5; and
 - .5 [On Board Training Record Book for Electro-Technical Officers \(ETO Cadets\)](#) to support the requirements under regulation III/6.

Information to support the proposed amendments

6 Taking into account the information for the submission of proposals for phase 2 of the comprehensive review of the STCW Convention and Code, as set out in document HTW 12/6 (Secretariat), information to support the proposed amendments is set out below:

Gaps nos.*110, 145, 160, 163 and 226	
Related documents, if any:	ISWG-STCW 1/2/16
Action requested:	Modification to sections A-II/4, A-II/5, A-III/1, A-III/4, A-III/5, A-III/6, sections B-II/4, B-II/5, B-III/1, B-III/4, B-III/5 and B-III/6, and associated footnotes, as appropriate
Available evidence, data, research, etc., if any, to support the proposed amendments:	Not applicable
Voluntary assessment on the possible cumulative impact (if the proposal aims at adding new training requirements, provide information on the cumulative impact on seafarer's training/certification and possible measures to address the impact):	Information on the cumulative impact: No impact on certification within chapters II and III due to the proposed modifications (footnotes) being non-mandatory in nature. No impact on delivery and training hours. No impact expected on Administration.
	Possible measures to address the cumulative impact: Not applicable

* Gap nos. are listed in the annex to document HTW 12/6.

Proposal

7 It is proposed to amend sections:

.1 A-II/4, A-II/5, A-III/1, A-III/4, A-III/5 and A-III/6, as set out in annex 1; and

.2 B-II/4, B-II/5, B-III/1, B-III/4, B-III/5 and B-III/6, as set out in annex 2.

8 It is proposed that the existing footnote within section A-II and section B-II of the Code, that references the training record books is amended as follows:

"The relevant IMO Model Course(s) and a similar document produced by the International ~~Shipping Federation~~ **Chamber of Shipping** may be of assistance in the preparation of training record books."

9 The proposed amendments would necessitate consequential amendments to the numbering of the footnotes in section A-III of the Code.

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

10 The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the information and proposals in paragraphs 3 to 9; and annexes 1 and 2, and take action, as appropriate.

ANNEX 1*

PROPOSED DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO SECTIONS A-II/4, A-II/5, A-III/1, A-III/4, A-III/5 AND A-III/6 OF THE CODE

CHAPTER II

Standards regarding the master and deck department

- 1 Paragraph 4 of section A-II/4 is proposed to be amended, as follows:

"Section A-II/4

Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of ratings forming part of a navigational watch

Standard of competence

- 4 Where there are no tables of competence for the support level in respect to certain functions, it remains the responsibility of the Administration to determine the appropriate training, assessment and certification requirements to be applied to personnel designated to perform those functions at the support level*.

* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) and a similar document produced by the International Chamber of Shipping may be of assistance in the preparation of training record books."

- 2 Paragraph 3 of section A-II/5 is proposed to be amended, as follows:

"Section A-II/5

Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of ratings as able seafarer deck

Standard of competence

- 3 Every candidate for certification shall be required to provide evidence of having achieved the required standard of competence in accordance with the methods for demonstrating competence and the criteria for evaluating competence specified in columns 3 and 4 of table A-II/5*.

* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) and a similar document produced by the International Chamber of Shipping may be of assistance in the preparation of training record books."

* Tracked changes are used based on the existing provisions, which are provided in document HTW 12/6/1, i.e. "strikeout" for deleted text and "grey shading" to highlight all modifications and new insertions, including deleted text.

CHAPTER III

Standards regarding engine department

3 Paragraphs 2 of section A-III/1 are proposed to be amended, as follows:

"Section A-III/1

Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of officers in charge of an engineering watch in a manned engine-room or as designated duty engineers in a periodically unmanned engine-room

Onboard training

2 Every candidate for certification as officer in charge of an engineering watch in a manned engine-room or as designated duty engineer in a periodically unmanned engine-room of ships powered by main propulsion machinery of 750 kW or more whose seagoing service, in accordance with paragraph 2.2 of regulation III/1, forms part of a training programme approved as meeting the requirements of this section shall follow an approved programme of onboard training which:

- .1 ensures that, during the required period of seagoing service, the candidate receives systematic practical training and experience in the tasks, duties and responsibilities of an officer in charge of an engine-room watch, taking into account the guidance given in section B-III/1 of this Code;
- .2 is closely supervised and monitored by a qualified and certificated engineer officer aboard the ships in which the approved seagoing service is performed; and
- .3 is adequately documented in a training record book*.

* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) and a similar document produced by the International Chamber of Shipping may be of assistance in the preparation of training record books.

4 Paragraph 4 of section A-III/4 is proposed to be amended, as follows:

"Section A-III/4

Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of ratings forming part of a watch in a manned engine-room or designated to perform duties in a periodically unmanned engine-room

Standard of competence

4 Where there are no tables of competence for the support level with respect to certain functions, it remains the responsibility of the Administration to determine the appropriate training, assessment and certification requirements to be applied to personnel designated to perform those functions at the support level*.

* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) and a similar document produced by the International Chamber of Shipping may be of assistance in the preparation of training record books."

- 5 Paragraph 3 of section A-III/5 is proposed to be amended, as follows:

"Section A-III/5

Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of ratings as able seafarer engine in a manned engine-room or designated to perform duties in a periodically unmanned engine-room

Standard of competence

3 Every candidate for certification shall be required to provide evidence of having achieved the required standard of competence in accordance with the methods for demonstrating competence and the criteria for evaluating competence specified in columns 3 and 4 of table A-III/5*.

* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) and a similar document produced by the International Chamber of Shipping may be of assistance in the preparation of training record books."

- 6 Paragraph 2 of section A-III/6 is proposed to be amended, as follows:

"Section A-III/6

Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of electro-technical officers

Onboard training

2 Every candidate for certification as electro-technical officer shall follow an approved programme of onboard training which:

- .1 ensures that, during the required period of seagoing service, the candidate receives systematic practical training and experience in the tasks, duties and responsibilities of an electro-technical officer;
- .2 is closely supervised and monitored by qualified and certificated officers aboard the ships in which the approved seagoing service is performed; and
- .3 is adequately documented in a training record book*.

* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) and a similar document produced by the International Chamber of Shipping may be of assistance in the preparation of training record books."

ANNEX 2*

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SECTIONS B-II/4, B-II/5,
B-III/1, B-III/4, B-III/5 AND B-III/6 OF THE CODE**

CHAPTER II

Guidance regarding the master and the deck department

- 1 The following new paragraph 2 is added after existing paragraph 1 of section B-II/4:

"Section B-II/4

Guidance regarding the training and certification of ratings forming part of a navigational watch

- 2 Onboard training should be documented in an approved training record book*.

* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) and a similar document produced by the International Chamber of Shipping may be of assistance in the preparation of training record books."

- 2 Section B-II/5 is proposed to be amended, as follows:

"Section B-II/5

Guidance regarding the certification of ratings as able seafarer deck

Onboard training should be documented in an approved training record book*.

* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) and a similar document produced by the International Chamber of Shipping may be of assistance in the preparation of training record books."

* Tracked changes are used based on the existing provisions, which are provided in document HTW 12/6/1, i.e. "strikeout" for deleted text and "grey shading" to highlight all modifications and new insertions, including deleted text.

CHAPTER III Guidance regarding the engine department

- 3 Paragraph 3 of section B-III/1 is proposed to be amended, as follows:

"Section B-III/1

Guidance regarding the certification of officers in charge of an engineering watch in a manned engine-room or as designated duty engineers in a periodically unmanned engine-room

- 3 Onboard training should be adequately documented in the training record book* by qualified assessors.

* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) and a similar document produced by the International Chamber of Shipping may be of assistance in the preparation of training record books."

- 4 Section B-III/4 is proposed to be amended, as follows:

"Section B-III/4

Guidance regarding the training and certification of ratings forming part of a watch in a manned engine-room or designated to perform duties in a periodically unmanned engine-room

- 1 In addition to the requirements stated in section A-III/4 of this Code, Parties are encouraged, for safety reasons, to include the following items in the training of ratings forming part of an engineering watch:

- .1 a basic knowledge of routine pumping operations, such as bilge, ballast and cargo pumping systems;
- .2 a basic knowledge of electrical installations and the associated dangers;
- .3 a basic knowledge of maintenance and repair of machinery and tools used in the engine-room; and
- .4 a basic knowledge of stowage and arrangements for bringing stores on board.

- 2 Onboard training should be documented in an approved training record book*.

* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) and a similar document produced by the International Chamber of Shipping may be of assistance in the preparation of training record books."

- 5 Section B-III/5 is proposed to be amended, as follows:

"Section B-III/5

Guidance regarding the certification of ratings as able seafarer engine

Onboard training should be documented in an approved training record book*.

* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) and a similar document produced by the International Chamber of Shipping may be of assistance in the preparation of training record books."

- 6 Section B-III/6 of the Code is proposed to be amended, as follows:

"Section B-III/6

Guidance regarding training and certification for electro-technical officers

1 In addition to the requirements stated in table A-III/6 of this Code, Parties are encouraged to take into account resolution A.702(17) concerning radio maintenance guidelines for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) within their training programmes.

2 Onboard training should be documented in an approved training record book*.

* The relevant IMO Model Course(s) and a similar document produced by the International Chamber of Shipping may be of assistance in the preparation of training record books."