



IMO News Brief

HTW 10



The 10th session of Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (hereinafter referred to as HTW) was convened as a hybrid meeting from 5th to 9th February 2024.

This news flash briefs on the outcomes of HTW 10 on major issues.

1. VALIDATED MODEL TRAINING (Agenda 3)

1.1 Model courses validated at this session(HTW 10)

- Draft revised Model Course 1.32 on Operational Use of Integrated Bridge Systems (IBS) including Integrated Navigational Systems (INS)
- Draft revised Model Course 1.35 on Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Tanker Cargo and Ballast Handling Simulator

1.2 Model courses planned for validation by HTW 11

- 3.20 on Company Security Officer
- 3.21 on Port Facility Security Officer
- 3.23 on Actions to Be Taken to Prevent Acts of Piracy and Armed Robbery
- 1.25 on General Operator's Certificates for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)
- 1.26 on Restricted Operator's Certificate for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)

1.3 Arrangements for the validation of model courses by HTW 12

- 1.37 on Chemical Tanker Cargo and Ballast Handling Simulator
- 2.06 on Oil Tanker Cargo and Ballast Handling Simulator

2. REPORTS ON UNLAWFUL PRACTICES ASSOCIATED WITH CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY (Agenda 5)

The Sub-Committee, taking into account the launch of the new STCW GISIS module¹, noted that the information provided on the site "Parties whose Certificates were recognized in compliance with regulation I/10²" and the "Certificate Verification facility" would be consolidated into the new module, with a view to allowing Parties to manage and update relevant information

5.1 Reports on fraudulent certificates

The Sub-Committee invited Parties to anonymise the information when submitting reports on fraudulent certificates; and agreed that, if names were included in such reports, the Secretariat should anonymise them when publishing the corresponding document.

¹ New STCW GISIS module is to be launched for a trial period of two years

² Reg. I/10 : Recognition of certificates

5.2 Certificate verification facility

The Sub-Committee invited Member States to provide the Secretariat with updated information, which would be included in the "certificate verification facility" accessible on the IMO website, in order to facilitate and respond in a timely manner to requests for verification of certificates.

3. COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE 1978 STCW CONVENTION AND CODE (Agenda 6)

3.1 List of specific areas identified for the comprehensive review of the STCW Convention and Code

The Sub-Committee endorsed the finalized list(22) of specific areas for the comprehensive review with a view to approval by MSC 108 as follows;

- Emerging technologies on ships and ship operations
- Digitalization of documentation, including certificates issued under STCW
- Emerging technologies in education and training
- Facilitation, flexibility and quality of onboard, shore-based and workshop skills training, including use of simulators
- Flexibility and efficiency in implementation of new training requirements and reduction of administrative burdens
- Requirements for sea time or practical experience in relation to new and emerging technologies including the use of simulation
- Psychological safety, bullying and harassment, including SASH, gender diversity and gender sensitization
- Mental health
- Twenty-first century and interpersonal skills
- Addressing inconsistencies
- Addressing different interpretations
- Addressing taxonomy and terminologies
- Flexibility in revalidation of certificates and endorsements
- Overview of the implementation of the Convention, in particular the need to update the STCW "White List"
- Lessons learned
- Flexibility
- Alternative certification under chapter VII
- Watchkeeping arrangements and principles to be observed (chapter VIII)
- Alignment of STCW with requirements placed on ships, seafarers, and shipowners by other IMO and relevant international instruments
- Cybersecurity
- Implementation and transitional provisions
- Addressing outdated training requirements

3.2 Methodology for the comprehensive review

The Sub-Committee endorsed the draft methodology for the comprehensive review with a view to approval by MSC 108 as follows;

- The two-phase approach for the comprehensive review, consisting of Phase 1 (Review/Identification of gaps) followed by Phase 2 (Revision) should be acceptable
- A common terminology in the methodology would facilitate the preparation of submissions with a common structure and information

- Phase 1 should cover whole parts of the Convention and Code, including articles, to ensure it is truly comprehensive; and
- Phase 2 could be further discussed and defined at a later stage after Phase 1 had been finalized
- Agreed that the discussion on the possibility of prioritization, if necessary, should take place at a later stage, after completion of the review phase

3.3 Road Map for the Comprehensive Review

The Sub-Committee endorsed the draft road map for comprehensive review, and the Group's agreement on the approach (Option 1) for Phase 1 (Review), with a view to approval by MSC 108

- Option 1(Agreed approach) : Individual and group submissions by Member States and interested organizations who have conducted a comprehensive review, to be collectively considered by the ISWG
- Option 2(Not agreed approach) : A collective and thorough review of the Convention and Code by volunteer Member States and interested organizations
- Key Timeline
 - Review Stage : 2024 ~ 2025 ■ Revision Stage : 2025 ~ 2027
 - Adoption : 2027 ~ 2028

3.4 Draft terms of reference for the revision of model course 1.21 to incorporate SASH

The Sub-Committee endorsed the draft terms of reference for the revision of model course 1.21³, to incorporate the new competence in the draft amendments to table A-VI/1-4 of the STCW Code to prevent and respond to bullying and harassment in the maritime sector, including SASH⁴ approved at MSC 107.

The revision of model course 1.21 should also take into account the outcome of the second meeting of the JTWG⁵ and the decisions made by MSC 108.

In addition, the revision of the model course should:

- Add a relevant reference to the existing provisions on bullying and harassment in MLC, 2006
- Align the language used with the one used in MLC, 2006, as agreed by HTW 9
 - Target completion : HTW 12(2026) for consideration and validation

3.5 Accessibility of information related to medical provisions in the STCW Convention

Owing to time constraints, the Group was not able to consider draft MSC resolution on accessibility of information related to medical provisions in the STCW Convention, and it was deferred to consider at ISWG-STCW1.

3.6 Development of interim guidance on training for seafarers on ships using alternative fuels

The Sub-Committee agreed that:

- The work related to the development of training provisions for seafarers on ships using alternative fuels should be separate from the work on the comprehensive review of the STCW Convention and Code;
- The existing output⁶ of MSC could be utilized to develop training provisions for seafarers on ships using alternative fuels, taking into account the ongoing work by MSC, CCC and any other relevant bodies and invited MSC 108 to include this output in the provisional agenda for HTW 11

³ Model course 1.21 : Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities

⁴ SASH : Sexual assault and sexual harassment

⁵ The second joint ILO/IMO Tripartite WG to Identify and Address Seafarers' Issues and the Human Element : 27-29 Feb 2024

⁶ Development of a safety regulatory framework to support the reduction of GHG emissions from ships using new technologies and alternative fuels(MSC 107/17/21)

4. BIENNIAL STATUS REPORT AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR HTW 11 (Agenda 7)

The Sub-Committee invited MSC 108 to approve the establishment of an intersessional working group on the Comprehensive review of the 1978 STCW Convention and Code to take place before HTW 11 to further progress the work under agenda item 6, subject to endorsement by C 132.

4.1 Draft ToR for Intersessional working group on the comprehensive review of STCW Convention and Code

The Intersessional Working Group, guided by the aims, principles and the methodology of the Comprehensive Review approved by the Committee, taking into account the list of specific areas identified, the non-exhaustive lists of the documents on proposals for amendments to the STCW Convention and Code and topics for consideration, and the submissions received, is instructed to:

- Consider proposals on identified gaps and provisions that should be addressed
- Evaluate the non-exhaustive lists of documents and topics to support the identification of gaps and provisions to be addressed
- Develop a preliminary list of gaps and provisions to be addressed
- Prepare a work plan and recommendations to complete the review of all the provisions of the Convention and Code
- Consider the draft MSC resolution on accessibility of information related to medical provisions in the STCW Convention set out in the annex to document HTW 10/6/9, with a view to approval by the Committee

Should you have inquiries, please contact P.I.C. Thank you.

General Manager 
Statutory System Certification Team

P.I.C: PAK Sihyeon / Deputy Senior surveyor

Tel: +82 70 8799 8345

Fax: +82 70 8799 8319

E-mail: conaudit@krs.co.kr

Disclaimer

Although all possible efforts have been made to ensure correctness and completeness of the contents contained in this information service, the Korean Register is not responsible for any errors or omissions made herein, nor held liable for any actions taken by any party as a result of information retrieved from this information service