



Ref. T2/4.1.3

MSC/Circ.1030  
29 May 2002

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING,  
CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR  
SEAFARERS (STCW), 1978, AS AMENDED**

**Guidance for port State control officers on issues related to certificates of competency**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-fifth session (15 to 24 May 2002), noted that, during inspections, some port State control officers were requiring documentary evidence of successful completion of short-course training meeting the requirements in regulations VI/1, VI/2, VI/3 and VI/4 from seafarers holding certificates of competency issued under regulations II/1, II/2, II/3, III/1, III/2, III/3, and VII/2 of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, (STCW) 1978, as amended, even though the Convention includes this training as a pre-requisite for the issue of these certificates of competency.

2 The Committee agreed that certificates of competency issued in compliance with regulations II/1, II/2, II/3, III/1, III/2, III/3 and VII/2 of the STCW Convention 1978, as amended, also included the following competency requirements of chapter VI of the STCW Convention: proficiency in survival craft and rescue boats other than fast rescue boats (regulation VI/2, paragraph 1), training in advanced fire fighting (regulation VI/3), and medical first aid (regulation VI/4, paragraph 1).

3 The Committee further agreed that it was therefore not necessary for the holders of certificates of competency to carry additional documentary evidence in respect of those competences of chapter VI listed in paragraph 2 above.

4 Member Governments are invited to bring this information to the attention of all concerned, especially port State control officers.