



T2/4.2.1

MSC/Circ.978  
6 December 2000

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

**Parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and  
Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended, confirmed by the Maritime Safety  
Committee to have communicated information which demonstrates that full and complete  
effect is given to the relevant provisions of the Convention**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-third session (27 November to 6 December 2000), received the Secretary-General's reports pursuant to regulation I/7, paragraph 2 of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended, (STCW Convention). The reports were in respect of those Parties that had communicated information in advance of the STCW Convention deadline of 1 August 1998 and, for those Parties with a later implementation date, reports for those Parties that had communicated information in advance of their respective deadlines.

2 The Committee noted that, in preparing the reports required by STCW regulation I/7, paragraph 2, the Secretary-General had solicited and taken into account the views of the competent persons selected from the list established pursuant to paragraph 5 of section AI/7 of the STCW Code and circulated as MSC/Circ.797, as revised from time to time.

3 In accordance with STCW regulation I/7, paragraph 3, the Committee confirmed that the STCW Parties listed at annex have communicated information which demonstrates that they give full and complete effect to the relevant provisions of the STCW Convention. The Committee noted that, as the process of communicating and evaluating information is continuing, further Parties may be added to the list at annex at its subsequent meetings.

4 The Committee draws the attention of maritime administrations, shipowners, ship operators and managers, ship masters and other parties concerned to the following:

- .1 not all of the STCW Parties listed at annex provide seafarer training, and some of those Parties listed may only provide a limited range of training; and
- .2 the fact that a Party is listed in the annex does not relieve those concerned of their obligations under the STCW Convention.

5 Notwithstanding the Committee's identification of the Parties listed at annex, Member Governments are invited to draw the attention of their port State control offices to the guidance contained in MSC/Circ.918 including the fact that valid certificates of competency and endorsements issued or recognized by a Party in accordance with the relevant provisions of the

STCW Convention, which were in force immediately prior to 1 February 1997, remain valid until 1 February 2002, subject to STCW regulation I/15.

6 As Parties are entitled to accept, in principle, certificates issued by or on behalf of Parties identified in the list at annex, and a position on that list is one of the necessary measures used by many Administrations for the issue of endorsements in compliance with STCW regulation I/10, the attention of port State control officers is drawn to the fact that this circular was issued on 6 December 2000 and, therefore, for practical reasons, seafarers should not be expected to hold certificates with such endorsements until 1 February 2002.

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## ANNEX

**Parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended, confirmed by the Maritime Safety Committee to have communicated information which demonstrates that full and complete effect is given to the relevant provisions of the Convention**

Argentina	India	Poland
Australia	Indonesia	Portugal
Bahamas	Ireland	Republic of Korea
Bangladesh	Italy	Romania
Belgium	Israel	Russian Federation
Brazil	Jamaica	Samoa
Bulgaria	Japan	Singapore
Canada	Kiribati	South Africa
Chile	Latvia	Spain
China	Liberia	Sri Lanka
Colombia	Luxembourg	Sweden
Croatia	Malaysia	Thailand
Cuba	Maldives	Tonga
Cyprus	Malta	Trinidad & Tobago
Denmark*	Marshall Islands	Turkey
Egypt	México	Tuvalu
Estonia	Morocco	Ukraine
Finland	Netherlands	United Kingdom**
France	New Zealand	United States
Germany	Norway	Uruguay
Ghana	Pakistan	Vanuatu
Greece	Panama	Venezuela
Honduras	Peru	Viet Nam
Iceland	Philippines	China (Hong Kong SAR)***

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\* Includes: Faeroe Islands

\*\* Includes: Isle of Man  
Bermuda  
Cayman Islands  
Gibraltar

\*\*\* Associate Member

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