

**International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and
Watchkeeping for Seafarers, STCW 78, as amended- “White list”**

Circular No. 4/2001

TEN:1/5

TEN:32/4/15

5 February 2001

To All owners, Managers and Representatives Of ships under the Cyprus Flag

**Subject: International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and
Watchkeeping for Seafarers, STCW 78, as amended- “White list”**

I refer to the above subject and further to our circular No. 17/98 dated 27 July 1998, I wish to inform you the following:

1. “White List”

The Maritime Safety Committee at its seventy-third session (27 November to 6 December 2000) confirmed that 71 countries and one associate member of IMO have communicated information pursuant to regulation I/7 of the STCW78 Convention as amended which demonstrates that they give full and complete effect to the relevant provisions of the aforementioned Convention. The so-called "White List" (List of countries found to give full and complete effect to the relevant provisions of the STCW Convention) is shown in the annex of the attached MSC Circular No. 978, issued by the International Maritime Organization.

It should be noted that the so-called “White List” shown in the above MSC circular is “dynamic” and more Parties may be added to the list at subsequent meetings of the Maritime Safety Committee as the process of communicating and evaluating information is continuing.

2. Endorsements attesting recognition

Your attention is drawn to paragraph 6 of the abovementioned MSC circular, which clearly indicates that Port State Control officers, for practical reasons, should not expect seafarers to hold endorsements attesting recognition issued by the flag state prior to 1 February 2002.

Owners, Managers and Operators of ships flying the Cyprus flag are hereby required to forward a copy of the attached MSC circular on board each ship flying the Cyprus flag and instruct the Master accordingly, in order to avoid ship delays by overzealous Port State Control Officers seeking endorsements attesting recognition, issued by the flag state, prior to 1 ^{February 2002.}

This Administration is preparing to commence the process of endorsement of foreign certificates of competency in the very near future. To this end, very detailed instructions regarding the procedure to be followed for obtaining such endorsements will be communicated to all interested parties in due course.

3. Certificates of Competency recognised by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus

The Government of the Republic of Cyprus has recognised until now the certificates of competency issued in accordance with the relevant provisions of the STCW78 Convention, which applied immediately prior to 1 February 1997, by the 56 countries shown in Appendix 1. Seafarers holding certificates of competency or training documentary evidence issued by or on behalf of the competent Authorities listed in Appendix 1 may continue to serve on board ships flying the Cyprus flag **until** 1 February 2002, pursuant to regulation I/15 of the STCW78 Convention as amended.

After 1 February 2002, only seafarers furnished with certificates of competency or training documentary evidence issued by or on behalf of competent Authorities, which will be recognised by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus in accordance with the provisions of regulation I/10 of the STCW78 Convention as amended, will be permitted to serve on board ships flying the Cyprus flag, provided that their individual certificates of competency are endorsed by this Administration.

This Administration has commenced the process of recognition of certificates of competency issued by other Parties to the STCW Convention pursuant to Regulation I/10 of the STCW Convention as amended. However, the Government of the Republic of Cyprus will recognise certificates of competency and training documentary evidences issued by other Parties to the STCW Convention provided that:

1. The Party in question is on the so-called “white list” (List of countries found to give full and complete effect to the STCW convention as amended)
2. This Administration has confirmed through all necessary measures, which may include inspection of facilities and procedures that the requirements concerning standards of competence, the issue and endorsement of certificates and record keeping are fully complied with; and
3. An undertaking is agreed with the Party concerned that prompt notification will be given of any significant change in the arrangements for training and certification provided in compliance with the STCW 78 Convention as amended

It should be noted that, due to the limited time until the full implementation of the STCW Convention as amended (1st February 2002), the late publication of the so-called “White List” by the International Maritime Organisation and the time consuming process required by Regulation I/10 of the STCW Convention as amended for the recognition of foreign certificates of competency, this Administration will give priority to the recognition of certificates of competency issued by Parties the certificates of which are currently recognised by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus.

- Certificates of Competency Presently Recognized by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus

- International Convention of Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as Amended

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- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Works
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- Maritime Offices of the Department of Merchant Shipping abroad
- Diplomatic Missions and Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic
- Inspectors of Cyprus ships
- Cyprus Shipping Association (Sea Rovers) Ltd
- Cyprus Shipping Council
- Union of Cypriot Shipowners
- Cyprus Bar Association
- Cyprus Naval Architects and Marine Engineers Association
- Master Mariners Association

CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY PRESENTLY RECOGNIZED BY THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Argentina | Japan |
| Australia | Korea, Republic of |
| Belgium | Latvia |
| Bulgaria | Lebanon |
| Canada | Liberia |
| Cape Verde | Malaysia |
| Chile | Maldives |
| China, Peoples' Republic of | Myanmar |
| Colombia | Netherlands |
| Croatia ** | New Zealand |
| Cuba | Norway |
| Czech Republic | Pakistan |
| Denmark | Philippines |
| Egypt | Poland |
| Finland | Portugal |
| France | Romania |
| Germany* | Russia ** |
| Greece | Singapore |
| Hong Kong | Slovak Republic |
| Hungary | Spain |
| Iceland | Sri Lanka |
| India | Sweden |
| Indonesia | Togo |
| Ireland | Turkey |
| Israel | Ukraine |
| Italy | United Kingdom |
| Ivory Coast | United States of America |

* Including Certificates of Competency issued by the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic.

** The Certificates of Competency issued by the former States of U.S.S.R and Yugoslavia are also recognised



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 A-I/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.

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)*** |

* Includes: Faeroe Islands

** Includes: Isle of Man
Bermuda
Cayman Islands
Gibraltar

*** Associate Member
