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TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING
11th session
Agenda item 6

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COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE 1978 STCW CONVENTION AND CODE

Proposed amendments to table A-VI/1-3 of the STCW Code

Submitted by India

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document presents proposed amendments to table A-VI/1-3 of the STCW Code, based on gaps identified in chapter VI of the STCW Convention and Code, which need to be addressed owing to the issues emanating from and relating to the mental health, emotional and psychological well-being of seafarers as well as lessons learned in the past few years.

*Strategic direction, 6
if applicable:*

Output: 6.17

Action to be taken: Paragraph 10

Related documents: HTW 11/6 and ISWG-STCW 1/2/40

1 The International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, was adopted with the objective of promoting safety of life and property at sea and the protection of the marine environment by establishing international standards of training, certification and watchkeeping for seafarers. Parties to the Convention and their Administrations, as defined in article II of the Convention, undertake to meet the obligations prescribed therein.

2 The 1978 STCW Convention entered into force on 28 April 1984. Amendments thereto were adopted in 1991, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998, 2004, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2020. Major amendments were adopted in 1995 and 2010.

3 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its 105th session, agreed to include in the biennial agenda of the HTW Sub-Committee an output on "Comprehensive review of the 1978 STCW Convention and Code" (MSC 105/20, paragraph 18.13.1).

4 HTW 9 agreed to draft aims and principles to guide the work of the comprehensive review of the STCW Convention and Code, which also constituted a preliminary assessment of the scope of the work to be conducted during the comprehensive review (HTW 9/15, paragraph 7.24). MSC 107 subsequently approved the draft aims and principles prepared at HTW 9.

5 HTW 10 had finalized a list of specific areas for the comprehensive review, including the articles of the Convention, prepared a draft methodology and finalized a road map for the comprehensive review (HTW 10/10, paragraphs 6.40 to 6.43, and annexes 4 to 6), which were subsequently approved at MSC 108, in conjunction with the approval of 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 of the comprehensive review, subject to endorsement by C 132.

6 ISWG-STCW 1/2/40 identified certain gaps in table A-VI/1-3 of the STCW Code, as referred to in document HTW 11/6 (annex 1).

7 Considering the above, the proposed modifications to table A-VI/1-3 of the STCW Code are set out in the annex.

Discussion

8 During the review of table A-VI/1-3 of the STCW Code, it was identified that training in recognizing any issues with own and/or fellow seafarer(s)' mental health or emotional and psychological well-being as well as any signs of depression is becoming increasingly important.

Proposal

9 It is proposed to amend table A-VI/1-3 of the STCW Code by adding a new competence to the table, as detailed in the annex, to address identified gaps.

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

10 The Sub-Committee is invited to review the proposed amendments to table A-VI/1-3, as set out in the annex, and consider incorporating the revised competencies.

ANNEX

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO COVER THE GAP IDENTIFIED IN
TABLE A-VI/3 OF STCW CODE**

Table A-VI/1-3 Specification of minimum standard of competence in elementary first aid

Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Methods for demonstrating competence	Criteria for evaluating competence
Take immediate action upon encountering an accident or other medical emergency	<p>Assessment of needs of casualties and threats to own safety</p> <p>Appreciation of body structure and functions as well as signs/symptoms arising due to mental health and emotional and psychological issues of self and fellow seafarers on board</p> <p>Understanding of immediate measures to be taken in cases of emergency, including the ability to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> .1 position casualty .2 apply resuscitation techniques .3 control bleeding .4 apply appropriate measures of basic shock management .5 apply appropriate measures in event of burns and scalds, including accidents caused by electric current .6 rescue and transport a casualty .7 improvise bandages and use materials in the emergency kit 	Assessment of evidence obtained from approved instruction or during attendance at an approved course	<p>The manner and timing of raising the alarm is appropriate to the circumstances of the accident or medical emergency. The identification of probable cause, nature and extent of injuries is prompt and complete and the priority and sequence of actions is proportional to any potential threat to life</p> <p>Risk of further harm to self and casualty is minimized at all times</p>

Note: Changes have been made in grey shading.