

International Maritime Organisation
C/o Maritime Training and Human Element
Subdivision for Operational Safety and Human Element
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Report on Subsequent mandatory amendments by Iceland to the STCW Convention and Code

Report on the steps taken by Iceland to implement subsequent mandatory amendments to the STCW Convention and STCW Code, not previously included in the report on the initial communication of information pursuant to regulation I/7 or previous report pursuant to regulation I/8.

The main legal and administrative measures provided and taken by Iceland to ensure compliance with the amendments to the STCW Convention and STCW Code are contained in the enclosed Regulation No. [676/2015](#). The Regulation provides for all relevant, so-called Manila amendments to the Convention and Code.

The new Regulation contains provisions on the new positions that were introduced with the Manila amendments, i.e. rating as able seafarer deck (II/5), rating as able seafarer engine (III/5), electro-technical officer (III/6), electro-technical rating (III/7),

New requirements on medical standards, fitness and practitioners

Medical requirements have been renewed considerably to follow STCW Manila amendments. The provisions are contained in Article 8 and Annex II of Regulation 676/2015. See also Table A-I Minimum in-service eyesight standards for seafarers, Part B of Annex II, guidance regarding medical standards, Medical examination and certification. See also guidance on medical examinations and a list of recognised medical practitioners on ICETRA's web site: <https://www.samgongustofa.is/siglingar/leyfi/sjomannalaeknar/> (Icelandic only).

New curriculum for navigation and marine engineering studies

The curriculum for navigation and marine engineering studies was revised in 2008 and 2009. That revision was meant to ascertain fulfilment of the pre-Manila provisions of the STCW Convention and Code. When the Manila amendments entered into force in 2010, that curriculum was analysed, substantiating that both curricula fulfilled the Manila amendments

with some minor exceptions (see enclosed letter from the Ministry of Education and Culture confirming that course plans in force meet the requirements of the Manila amendments to the STCW Convention and Code). The main findings concerned bridge and engine-room resource management.

Summary of courses, training programmes provided to comply with the amendment

See enclosed documents in folder: Overview of Training Institutions and Course Plans

Outline of the procedures followed to authorize, accredit or approve training and examinations

The objective of Regulation 676/2015 is to ensure the safety of crews, passengers and Icelandic passenger ships and cargo ships and to promote the protection of the marine environment. This objective shall be achieved by setting specific requirements for education and training, age, seagoing service, medical fitness, vision and hearing of those serving on board and, by that, ensuring the professional competence of the crews in relation to the size, assignments and trading area of a ship.

Article 4 of the Regulation provides that seafarers who work on board ships, to which the Regulation applies, shall comply with the minimum education and training in accordance with the requirements of the STCW Convention, as laid down in Annex I to the Regulation¹⁾ and the conditions for issuing licenses, and/or documentary evidence. Furthermore, seafarers whose function is to be in charge of and supervise survival craft and their use shall have received appropriate training and hold an appropriate certificate in accordance with the Regulation. Education and training of seafarers must meet the requirements of theoretical knowledge and practical skills provided for in Annex I to the Regulation, in particular as regards training in handling lifesaving and fire-fighting equipment.

Maritime training institutions provide education and training for crews of Icelandic ships, cf. paragraph 1 of Article 3 of Act No. 76/2001 on the crews of Icelandic passenger ships and cargo ships, as amended. Admission to maritime training institutions, curriculum, learning arrangements, assessment and grades as basis for the issue of specific certificates pursuant to this Regulation is subject to Act No. 92/2008 on secondary schools, as amended. The Maritime Safety and Survival Training Centre (MSSTC) is subject to Act No. 33/1991, as amended, and the Minister verifies the curriculum guide of the Centre.

Training and teaching in maritime training institutions shall be carried out on the basis of an approved quality management system, cf. Article 12 of the Regulation.

Pursuant to the Regulation, the fields of application of the quality standards shall cover the administration of the certification system, all training courses and programmes, examinations and assessments carried out by or under the authority of the administration and the

¹⁾ Chapter I of Annex I to the Regulation provides that the Regulations in the Annex are supplemented by the mandatory provisions contained in Part A of the STCW Code with the exception of Chapter VIII, Regulation VIII/2, which is provided for in a separate Regulation. Any reference to a requirement in the Regulation also constitutes a reference to the corresponding section of Part A of the STCW Code. This provision makes Part A of the Code mandatory in its entirety, with the exception of Chapter VIII, Regulation VIII/2.

qualifications and experience required of instructors and assessors, having regard to the policies, systems, controls and internal quality-assurance reviews established to ensure achievement of the defined objectives.

According to the Act No. 92/2008 on Upper-Secondary Education, studies at the upper secondary level are organised as a continuation of compulsory school education. The studies conclude with a final examination such as the upper secondary school leaving certificate, a professional qualification examination, the matriculation examination, or any other formal conclusion of studies, linked, as the case may be, to specific occupations and granting special rights in relation there.

Competency assessments required under the amendment

Candidates for certification applicable after 1 January 2017 must have attended recognized refresher and updating training courses or undergone assessment of competence in accordance with the relevant conditions of the issue of certificates of competency or certificates of proficiency in accordance with part A of the STCW Code following amendments to the STCW Convention. Refresher and updating courses aim to provide additional education and training in accordance with changes in knowledge and competence requirements in line with amendments to the STCW Convention.

Refresher training and upgrading training required to meet the amendments (Reg. I/11)

As provided for in Act No. 76/2001, on Crews Serving on Board Icelandic Passenger Ships and Cargo Ships, as amended, maritime training institutions provide education and training for crews of Icelandic ships. Rules on admission requirements to a maritime training institutions, curriculum guides, education, education arrangements, study assessment and grades for achieving specific certificates pursuant to this Act are laid down in the Upper Secondary School Act and regulations adopted hereunder. Education, training and instruction in maritime training institutions shall be carried out in accordance with an approved quality standards system.

The Occupational Council of the Fisheries and Maritime Industries, acting in accordance with the Upper Secondary School Act shall make proposals to the Minister responsible for education on the curriculum guides for maritime training institutions after having received an opinion thereof by the Icelandic Transport Authority.

The Maritime Safety and Survival Training Centre (MSSTC) is subject to Act No. 33/1991 and the Minister of Transport verifies the curriculum guide of the Centre.

The Ministry of Education and Culture verifies the compliance of maritime training institutions' curriculum guides with the requirements of international conventions and the Icelandic Transport Authority is responsible for controlling that the education provided in maritime training institutions meets the requirements of international conventions.

The Ministry of Education and Culture and the Ministry of Transport and Local Government shall ensure that appropriate refresher courses, cf. the above paragraph, and in accordance with section A-I/11 of the STCW Code are available. The Icelandic Transport Authority shall scrutinize updating courses pursuant to Article 9 of Regulation 676/2015. The aim of these courses is to update knowledge and skills standards in accordance with new requirements for education and training in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 9 of the Regulation. The

courses shall, among other things, cover recent changes in international requirements concerning the safety of life at sea, maritime security and marine environmental protection.

Paragraph 1 of Article 9 of the Regulation provides that:

Every master, officer and radio operator holding a certificate who is serving at sea or intends to return to sea after a period ashore shall, in order to continue to qualify for seagoing service, be required at intervals not exceeding five years:

- a. to meet the standards of medical fitness prescribed by Article 8 of this Regulation,
- b. to meet the provisions of A-I/11 of the STCW Code.

Paragraph 3 of the Regulation provides:

With regard to masters' and officers' continuing seagoing service on board tankers, they shall meet the requirements of paragraph 1 of this Article and be required, at intervals not exceeding five years, to establish continued professional competence for tankers in accordance with paragraph 3 of Section A-I/11 of the STCW Code.

See enclosed documents for further information.

On behalf of the Icelandic Transport Authority,



20 December 2017

Einar Örn Hedinsson

Director Transport Operations