



South African Maritime Safety Authority

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Date: 11 May 2012

Marine Notice No. 11 of 2012

Draft Regulations relating to the 2010 Amendments to the STCW Convention

TO SAMSMA EXAMINERS, PRINCIPAL OFFICERS, MARITIME EDUCATION & TRAINING PROVIDERS, SHIP OPERATORS AND OWNERS AND SEAFARERS

Marine Notices 15, 16, 17, 19, 20 & 23 of 2011 and 6 of 2012 are cancelled

Summary

This Marine Notice seeks to advise the industry of the steps SAMSMA, through the National Department of Transport (DoT), is taking to incorporate the 2010 Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 (STCW Convention). The process has been started within SAMSMA to draft new regulations to replace the existing regulations.

Introduction

1. In June 2010, the IMO adopted the 2010 amendments to the STCW Convention in Manila. The amendments were of a nature that required South Africa to amend the regulations relating to the Training and Certification of seafarers and Manning of South African vessels.
2. It was decided that new principles should be adopted before we try to amend the current regulations. We adopted a clean page policy as our starting point and using the STCW Convention as the main guiding principle, taking into account the status of our own industry so that our regulations work for our industry and not the other way round.
3. At the same time, South Africa has also decided to adopt and implement the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel (STCW-F Convention), 1995. The regulations on training and certification of seafarers will be combined to include the following groups of certificates:
 - a. STCW Convention Certificates
 - b. STCW-F Convention Certificates
 - c. Port Operations Certificates
4. A separate review of the regulations pertaining to Medical and Eyesight standards are in a separate draft and will be published accordingly. Certificates issued in terms of existing regulations will continue to be valid for the purpose of the new regulations dealing with Training, Certification and Manning.

Steps being taken

5. SAMSMA has appointed a team of examiners to adopt principles which will work to achieve the objectives set out for SAMSMA in Section 3 of the South African Maritime Safety Authority Act.
6. The following steps are taking place to align the regulations with the amended STCW Convention:
 - a. Deciding on the principles to be adopted when drafting the regulations to align with above objectives;*(this is complete)*

- b. Producing flow diagrams that can be used as guidelines to examiners and candidates showing all certificates and qualifications(*this is complete*)
- c. Convert diagrams and principles into appropriate regulations format.
- d. Qualifications committee to meet over the draft regulations and decide if they are ready for public scrutiny
- e. A consultative period through road shows in all major ports will be announced and dates set for public hearings and presentation. Comments from these hearings may be incorporated into the drafts as necessary.
- f. Drafts regulations will be published and the chief examiner will present the same to the IMO's STW committee

Making Contributions to the regulations

- 7. Members of the public who wish to contribute to the process are welcome to do so by e-mail the drafting team at: tcmr@samsa.org.za and one of the examiners will contact them. These contributions may be based on the existing regulations, the latest STCW Convention and STCW-F Convention.

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