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Podgorica, 21. November 2025.

Subject: Amendment to the STCW Convention – Introduction of Training on the Prevention of Harassment and Violence at Sea

At the 108th session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Maritime Safety Committee, held on 23 May 2024, Resolution MSC.560(108) was adopted, introducing amendments to Part A of the STCW Code, specifically to Table A-VI/1-4 (Specification of the minimum standard of competence in personal safety and social responsibilities).

According to the new provisions, a new competency has been added to Table A-VI/1-4:

“Contribute to preventing and responding to violence and harassment, including sexual harassment, bullying, and sexual assault.”

These amendments will enter into force on **1 January 2026**.

The purpose of the amendment is to ensure that basic training for all seafarers includes not only technical and safety aspects of shipboard operations, but also topics related to social responsibility, interpersonal relations, and the prevention of all forms of violence and harassment, including sexual harassment and sexual assault.

Educational institutions and training centres are required to adapt their programmes and materials by the specified date, so that the training is aligned with the new requirements of the STCW Code and contributes to creating a safe, respectful, and inclusive working environment at sea.

For shipping companies, this transition entails planning training capacities and updating internal policies to ensure that all crew members complete the new courses when renewing their certificates.

All IMO Member States are obliged to implement the above-mentioned Resolution in such a way that, starting from that date, all Basic Safety Training courses (STCW A-VI/1) must include the newly added competencies in their curricula.

The Ministry of Maritime Affairs has initiated the procedure for adopting amendments to the Regulation on the types of certificates and endorsements, the requirements for obtaining certificates, and the issuance of endorsements for ship crew members, introducing the obligation to complete the additional competencies after 1 January 2026.

Certificates of Basic Safety Training (STCW VI/1) issued by the Ministry of Maritime Affairs up to and including 31 December 2025 will remain valid until their expiry date.



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