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SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING
41st session
Agenda item 7

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COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE STCW CONVENTION AND THE STCW CODE

Draft Conference resolution related to future amendments and review of the STCW Convention and Code

Submitted by the International Federation of Shipmasters' Associations (IFSMA) and
the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)

SUMMARY

Executive summary:	This document proposes a draft Conference resolution to adopt amendments to the STCW Convention and Code on a five-yearly cycle and to conduct a comprehensive review every 10 years
Strategic direction:	5
High-level action:	5.2
Planned output:	5.2.2.1
Action to be taken:	Paragraph 6
Related documents:	None

1 Considering the rapid development of new technology and how this future technology will inevitably require new training and that the requirements of the STCW Convention would need to be reviewed on a regular basis. In addition, the potential for operational changes such as the proposal by the European Union MarNIS Project may require serious consideration regarding watchkeeping in the future.

2 Furthermore, if these advances in concepts and technology are not matched by a coordinated system of training and application, then the industry will suffer.

3 Considering the above, IFSMA and ITF strongly believe that the industry would benefit by preparing for the next comprehensive review well in advance taking into account new developments.

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4 Furthermore, IFSMA and ITF believe that any future amendments to the STCW Convention should be done at five-year intervals. This would assist Administrations, seafarers, shipping companies, and maritime training providers to implement the amendments in a structured and pragmatic manner.

5 In light of the foregoing, IFSMA and ITF propose a draft resolution as set out in the annex for the consideration of the Sub-Committee with a view to adoption at the proposed Diplomatic Conference.

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

6 The Sub-Committee is invited to note the above information and take action as appropriate.

ANNEX

DRAFT CONFERENCE RESOLUTION

Future amendments and review of the STCW Convention and Code

THE CONFERENCE,

HAVING ADOPTED the 2010 amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978 and the Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) Code,

NOTING that the fast changing technology and training methodology required a different approach for amending and reviewing the STCW Convention and Code,

FURTHER NOTING that frequent amendments to the STCW Convention and Code was not helpful to the Maritime Administrations, shipowners or seafarers,

RECOMMENDS that amendments to the STCW Convention and Code should be adopted on the basis of a five-year cycle and that piece-meal amendments should be avoided,

FINALLY RECOMMENDS that the STCW Convention and Code should be reviewed once every 10 years to ensure that it is up to date with emerging technology.
