



Republic of Mauritius

**Ministry of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit,  
Land Transport and Shipping  
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PORT LOUIS**

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**NOTICE TO MARINERS Ref: 3 of 2013**

**Title: Mandatory minimum requirements for security – related  
training and instruction for all seafarers as per STCW  
Convention Regulation VI/6.**

Notice to Ship owners and Masters of ships under the Mauritius Flag &  
Maritime Training Institutions.

The objectives of this Notice to Mariners is to detail the new STCW Regulation VI/6 requirements and explain how shipowners can ensure that seafarers on their vessels comply with the new requirements.

**STCW Convention regulation VI/6**

STCW Convention regulation VI/6 takes effect from 01/01/2014 and applies to seafarers on Mauritius flagged vessels to which the ISPS Code applies. This Notice to Mariners details the new requirements and explains how shipowners can ensure seafarers on their vessels do comply with the new requirements.

**1. Security-related familiarisation training**

This training applies as from 01/01/2014 to all persons employed or engaged in any capacity on ships, prior to being assigned shipboard duties; it does not apply to passengers. The instruction must be delivered by the Ship Security Officer, or an equally qualified person and provide guidance for the seafarer to at least be able to;

- a. Report a security incident
- b. Know the procedure to follow when they recognise a security threat; and
- c. Take part in security-related emergency and contingency procedures.

These procedures shall be included in the Ship Security plan and can also be included as part of the shipboard familiarisation checklist and

shall be covered in the Ship Management System (SMS)

**2. Standard of competence for security awareness training (for seafarers without designated security duties)**

Security awareness training is required as from 01/01/2014 and only needs to be given once in the seafarer's career as there is no requirement for refreshment or revalidation. This training applies to seafarers employed or engaged in any capacity on the business of a ship as part of the ship's complement without designated security duties. This Ministry considers this to apply as a minimum to all members of the deck, engine-room and catering departments on the vessel. These seafarers shall receive the training as set out in **Annex 1** before being assigned to any shipboard duties.

On completion of this training the seafarer shall be able to –

- a. Contribute to the enhancement of maritime security through heightened awareness;
- b. Recognise security threats; and
- c. Understand the need for and methods of maintaining security awareness and vigilance.

There is a transitional provision for this requirement for existing seafarers (**see section 4**)

**3. Standard of competence for seafarers with designated security duties**

Security training for seafarers with designated security duties is required as from 01/01/2014 and only needs to be given once in the seafarer's career as there is no requirement for refreshment or revalidation.

This applies to every seafarer who is designated to perform security duties as stated in the Ship Security Plan and also includes anti-piracy and anti-armed robbery related activities. On completion of the training the seafarer shall have sufficient knowledge to perform on board designated security duties, including anti-piracy and anti-armed robbery related activities.

These seafarers shall be required to demonstrate competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1 of table A-VI/6-2 of the STCW Code (state in **Annex II**) which includes –

- a. Maintaining the conditions set out in a Ship Security Plan;
- b. Recognising security risks and threats;
- c. Undertaking regular security inspections; and
- d. Properly using security equipment and systems.

There is a transitional provision for this requirement for existing seafarers (see Section 4).

#### **4. Transitional provisions**

There are transitional provisions for:

- (i)** Security awareness training for seafarers who commenced sea service before 01/01/2012.

Seafarers falling into the above mentioned category are not required to undertake further training provided that they can demonstrate they meet the new requirements by:

- a.** having approved seagoing service as shipboard personnel for a period of at least six months in total during the preceding three years. This can be verified by checking the seafarer's discharge book or the record of employment issued by their employer. The seafarer's employer shall issue the appropriate document to the seafarers confirming that the necessary sea time to fulfil this requirement has been met.

The Seafarer's employer shall also submit this document to this Ministry who will then issue a "Certificate of Proficiency" on security awareness training.

- (ii)** Standard of competence for seafarers with designated security duties for seafarers with designated security duties who commenced sea service before 01/01/2012.

Seafarers falling under this category are not required to undertake further training provided that they can demonstrate they meet the new requirements by:

- a.** having performed security functions after 01/07/04 considered to be equivalent to the seagoing service required by (a) above;

The seafarer's employer shall issue the appropriate document to the seafarers confirming that the necessary security functions have been fulfilled and that this requirement has been met.

The Seafarer's employer shall also submit this document to this Ministry who will then issue "Certificate of Proficiency" on security training for Seafarers with designated security duties.

**All applications for the issue of COP's at (i) and (ii) above shall be submitted to the Director of Shipping.**

**The Transitional provisions will end on the 31 December 2014.**

**5. Recognising certificates issued by other Administrations**

For this purpose, please refer to this Ministry's Notice to mariners Ref: 2 of 2013 on Certificate of Proficiency for Ship Security Officers.

1. A training center shall be a shore based establishment.
2. The following type of training is allowed: classroom instruction, distance learning, computer-based training or a combination of these methods.
3. This Ministry will inspect local training centers to ensure they meet the requirements for STCW Regulations VI/6.
4. On the other hand, certificates issued by training centers located abroad would be approved if the Administration which has issued the certificates is on IMO white list.
5. On successfully completing the training, the training center shall issue a Certificate of Proficiency to the seafarer.

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## Annex 1

**Table A-VI/6-1: Specification of minimum standard of competence in security awareness**

Seafarers shall be required to provide evidence of having achieved the required standard of competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in column 1:

- By demonstration of competence, in accordance with the methods and the criteria for evaluating competence tabulated in columns 3 and 4; and
- By examination or continuous assessment as part of an approved training programme in the subjects listed in column 2.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
<b>Competence</b>	<b>Knowledge, understanding and proficiency</b>	<b>Methods for demonstrating competence</b>	<b>Criteria for evaluating competence</b>
Contribute to the enhancement of maritime security through heightened awareness.	<p>Basic working knowledge of maritime security terms and definitions, including elements that may relate to piracy and armed robbery.</p> <p>Basic knowledge of international maritime security policy and responsibilities of Governments, companies and persons.</p> <p>Basic knowledge of maritime security levels and their impact on security levels and their impact on security measures and procedures aboard ship and in port facilities.</p>	Assessment of evidence obtained from approved instruction or during attendance at an approved course.	Requirements relating to enhanced maritime security are correctly identified.

	<p>Basic knowledge of security reporting procedures.</p> <p>Basic knowledge of security-related contingency plans.</p>		
Recognition of security threats.	<p>Basic knowledge of techniques used to circumvent security measures.</p> <p>Basic knowledge enabling recognition of potential security threats, including elements that may relate to piracy and armed robbery.</p> <p>Basic knowledge enabling recognition of weapons, dangerous substances and devices and awareness of the damage they can cause.</p> <p>Basic knowledge in handling security-related information and security-related communications.</p>	Assessment of evidence obtained from approved instruction or during attendance at an approved course.	Maritime security threats are correctly identified.
Understanding of the need for and methods of maintaining security awareness and vigilance.	Basic knowledge of training, drill and exercise requirements under relevant conventions, codes and IMO circulars, including those relevant for anti-piracy and anti-armed robbery.	Assessment of evidence obtained from approved instruction or during attendance at an approved course.	Requirements relating to enhanced maritime security are correctly identified.

## Annex 2

**Table A-VI/6-2: Specification of minimum standard of competence for seafarers with designated security duties.**

Every candidate for certification shall be required to provide evidence of having achieved the required standard of competence through:

- Demonstration of competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in Column 1, in accordance with the methods for demonstrating competence and the criteria for evaluating competence tabulated in Columns 3 and 4; and
- Examination or continuous assessment as part of an approved training programme covering the material set out in column 2.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
<b>Competence</b>	<b>Knowledge, understanding and proficiency</b>	<b>Methods for demonstrating competence</b>	<b>Criteria for evaluating competence</b>
Maintain the conditions set out in a Ship Security Plan.	<p>Working knowledge of maritime security terms and definitions, including elements that may relate to piracy and armed robbery.</p> <p>Knowledge of international maritime security policy and responsibilities of Governments, companies and persons, including working knowledge of elements that may related to piracy and armed robbery.</p> <p>Knowledge of maritime security levels and their impact on security measures and procedures aboard ship and in the port facilities.</p>	Assessment of evidence obtained from approved instruction or during attendance at an approved course.	<p>Procedures and actions are in accordance with the principles established by the ISPS Code and SOLAS 1974, as amended.</p> <p>Legislative requirements relating to security are correctly identified.</p> <p>Communications within the area of responsibility are clear and understood.</p>

<p>Maintain the conditions set forth in a Ship Security Plan.</p>	<p>Knowledge of security reporting procedures.</p> <p>Knowledge of procedures and requirements for drills and exercise under relevant conventions, codes and IMO circulars, including working knowledge of those that may related to piracy and armed robbery.</p> <p>Knowledge of the procedures for conduction inspections and surveys and for the control and monitoring of security activities specified in a Ship Security Plan.</p> <p>Knowledge of security-related contingency plans and the procedures for responding to security threats or breaches of security, including provisions for maintaining critical operations of the ship/port interface, and including also working knowledge of those that may be related to piracy and armed robbery.</p>	<p>Assessment of evidence obtained from approved instruction or during attendance at an approved course.</p>	<p>Procedures and action are in accordance with the principles established by the ISPS Code and SOLAS 1974, as amended.</p> <p>Legislative requirements relating to security are correctly identified.</p> <p>Communications within the area of responsibility are clear and understood.</p>
<p>Recognition of security risks and threats.</p>	<p>Knowledge of security documentation, including the Declaration of Security.</p> <p>Knowledge of techniques used to circumvent security</p>	<p>Assessment of evidence obtained from approved instruction or during attendance at an approved course.</p>	<p>Procedures and actions are in accordance with the principles established by the ISPS Code and the SOLAS, 1974, as amended.</p>

	<p>measures, including those used by pirates and armed robbers.</p> <p>Knowledge enabling recognition of potential security threats.</p> <p>Knowledge enabling recognition of weapons, dangerous substances and devices and awareness of the damage they can cause.</p> <p>Knowledge of crowd management and control techniques, where appropriate.</p> <p>Knowledge in handling security-related information and security-related communications.</p> <p>Knowledge of the methods for physical searches and non-intrusive inspections.</p>		
<p>Undertake regular security inspections of the ship.</p>	<p>Knowledge of the techniques for monitoring restricted areas.</p> <p>Knowledge of controlling access to the ship and to restricted areas on board ship.</p> <p>Knowledge of methods for effective monitoring of deck areas and areas surrounding the ship.</p>	<p>Assessment of evidence obtained from approved instruction or during attendance at an approved course.</p>	<p>Procedures and actions are in accordance with the principles established by the ISPS Code and the SOLAS Convention, as amended.</p>

	<p>Knowledge of inspection methods relating to the cargo and ship's stores.</p> <p>Knowledge of methods for controlling the embarkation, disembarkation and access while on board of persons and their effects.</p>		
<p>Proper usage of security equipment and systems, if any.</p>	<p>General knowledge of various types of security equipment and systems, including those that could be used in case of attacks by pirates and armed robbers, including their limitations.</p> <p>Knowledge of the need for testing, calibrating, and maintaining security systems and equipment, particularly whilst at sea.</p>	<p>Assessment of evidence obtained from approved instruction or during attendance at an approved course.</p>	<p>Equipment and systems operations are carried out in accordance with established equipment operating instructions and taking into account the limitations of the equipment and systems.</p> <p>Procedures and actions are in accordance with the principles established by the ISPS Code and the SOLAS, 1974, as amended.</p>