



# NAURU

## MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

### **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR FISHING VESSEL PERSONNEL, 1995 (STCW-F 1995) (NMA\_C28-2.2018.Rev.0)**

#### **PURPOSE:**

To provide guidance on International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1995 (STCW-F 1995)

#### **REFERENCE:**

- a) Merchant Shipping (Registration of Foreign Ships) Act 2018 of Nauru
- b) International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel, 1995 (STCW-F 1995)

#### **APPLICATION:**

The STCW-F Convention shall apply to seafarers serving on board seagoing fishing vessels registered under the Nauru flag.

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

1. The STCW-F Convention sets the certification and minimum training requirements for seafarers of seagoing fishing vessels of 24 metres in length and above. It is the first to establish basic requirements on training, certification and watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel on an international level and prescribes minimum standards relating to training, certification and watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel, which Parties States are obliged to comply with.
2. Considering the many lives lost world-wide during fishing operations, the IMO recognises the need for a remedial response to the safety crisis in the fishing industry and has a number of instruments addressing the issue. One of these instruments is the STCW-F Convention which was adopted by IMO in 1995, and is expected to bring considerable benefits and advantages to the fishing industry i.e. improving the quality of education and training provided to personnel employed on board fishing vessels; and enhancing the standard of training and safety in the fishing industry and fishing vessel fleets.
3. The Republic of Nauru has acceded to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel, 1995 (STCW-F 1995), which had entered into force on 29 September 2012.

#### **CONTENTS:**

- 1) The STCW-F Convention will contribute to the reduction of casualties, and will improve the present poor safety record of the global fishing industry. The STCW-F Convention will apply to seafarers serving on board seagoing fishing vessels of 24 metres in length and above. It sets the regulatory framework for the training and certification of personnel employed on board fishing vessels with a view to improve the safety of life and property at sea in the fishing industry, and the protection of the marine environment. This is the first attempt to establish international

mandatory training standards for seafarers manning and operating fishing vessels and it is hoped that it will indeed have the desired impact and effect. However, it is important to note that the STCW-F Convention does not actually deal with the manning requirements for the fishing vessels, which will be determined by each Party State.

- 2) The STCW-F Convention is comparatively short and consists of 15 Articles and an annex containing technical regulations in four chapters as follow:
  - a) Chapter I - General Provisions;
  - b) Chapter II - Certification of Skippers, Officers, Engineer Officers and Radio Operators;
  - c) Chapter III - Basic safety training for all fishing vessel personnel; and
  - d) Chapter IV – Watchkeeping
- 3) As Nauru is a Party to the STCW-F Convention, all fishing vessels registered under the Nauru Flag are required to be manned with seafarers duly certificated in accordance with the STCW-F Convention.

For further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the Administration at: [flag@naurumaritime.com](mailto:flag@naurumaritime.com).