

**[MTC MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 5, S. 2000,
April 05, 2000]**

**IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES TO MTC RESOLUTION NO. 09, S.
1999**

1. **Background.** MTC Resolution No. 09, s. 1999 was adopted to implement the requirements of Regulation VI/1 of the 1995 amendment to the STCW Convention and Section A-VI/1 of the STCW Code on Basic Safety Training.

The above Resolution aims to achieve full and complete compliance to the requirements on Basic Safety Training before 1 February 2002 and ensure continuous employment of the Filipino Seafarers.

In adopting the above Resolution, the Council took into account the clarifications made by the IMO in Annex 1 of STCW 7/Cir. 1 dated 24 September 1996. Paragraph 2.2 of Annex 1 of the said IMO circular concerning the implementation of Regulations VI/11 states that:

"Taking account of the large number of seafarers involved, particularly with regard to those who commenced sea service before 1 February 1997, Administrations are recommended to treat each case on its merits and should, in doing so, take full account of the standards of competence in Section A-VI/1-2."

In this connection, to facilitate the prompt, efficient and smooth transition in the issuance of the necessary documentary evidence in compliance to Regulation VI/1 of the STCW Convention, as amended, the herein guidelines are issued to govern the issuance of training certificates by the National Assessment Center in accordance with the subject Resolution.

2. Issuance of Certificates in accordance with MTC Resolution No. 09, s. 1999 . Certificates shall be issued by the National Assessment Center to those who have achieved the prescribed knowledge, understanding and competence under Section A-VI/1-2 of the STCW Code.

3. Procedures to be followed when issuing a certificate pursuant to Resolution No. 09, s. 1999

3.1 For seafarers who have undergone training in Basic Safety Course before 1 February 1997 and have served on board ship not less than 500GRT/750 KW for at least 12 months within the last 5 years;

Documentary Requirements — the seafarers must present the following documents:

3.1.1 Accomplished application form;

3.1.2 Seafarers Identification and Record Book (SIRB);

3.1.3 Training certificates issued by a training center before 1 February 1997 on Basic Fire Fighting, Personal Survival and First Aid at sea duly authenticated for service on board seagoing ship;

3.1.4 Certificate of Completion of a training course in Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities conducted by a training center duly accredited by the MTC;

3.1.5 Proof of sea service showing that the seafarer has served on board a seagoing vessel of 500GRT/750 KW or more for at least 12 months within the last 5 years from the date of application;

3.2 Assessment of competence

3.2.1 The assessor shall examine and assess the documents presented showing attendance to a training course in Basic Fire Fighting, Personal Survival Techniques, Elementary First Aid and Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities which were taken from an authorized training institution. The documents shall be accepted if they satisfy the following criteria:

- a. No alterations / no erasures
- b. Endorsed or authenticated either by Philippine Coast Guard or MARINA previously.

3.2.2 The proof of sea service shall be verified by means of any two of the following:

- a. Certificate of Sea Service issued by Manning Agencies/Local Shipping Companies. A certification that the ship, which the seafarer has is covered by an ISM Management Certificate or a certification that the seafarer while on board regularly undergoes safety drill and training.
- b. Certificate of Sea Service issued by Master for Officers as provided under R.A. 8544
- c. Certificate issued by the POEA attesting to seafarers employment overseas.
- d. Embarkation/Disembarkation certificates issued by flag state authority.

Compliance with the above requirement shall be considered as evidence of required competence for the issuance of the 1995 certificate in Basic Safety.

3.3 Seafarers who have undergone training in the four (4) Basic Safety Courses after February 1, 1997 but before the full implementation of MTC Resolution No. 3, Series of 1998 shall be qualified for the 1995 certificate provided they comply with the following documentary requirements: