

Commonwealth of Dominica



Office of the Maritime Administrator

TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS AND COMPANY SECURITY OFFICERS (CSO) OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS

SUBJECT: TRAINING OF COMPANY SECURITY OFFICERS (CSO)

**REFERENCE: a) IMO Circular MSC/Circ. 1154 Guidelines on Training and Certification for Company Security Officers (CSO)
b) Dominica Marine Safety Circular CD – MSC -04-03 Maritime Security Training for Company Security Officers and Ship Security Officers**

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Safety Circular is to provide guidance to all the owners and operators of the Commonwealth of Dominica flag vessels on training and certification of Company security Officers (CSO)

APPLICABILITY: Dominica flag vessels engaged on international voyages, as follows:

- a) passenger vessels, including high-speed passenger craft;
- b) cargo vessels, including high-speed craft, of 500 gross tonnage and upwards; and
- c) mobile offshore drilling units.

BACKGROUND:

- 1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its 77th session (28 May to 6 June 2003) instructed the Sub-Committee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping (STW) to develop training and certification requirements for company security officers.
- 2 The STW Sub-Committee, at its 35th session (26 to 30 January 2004), agreed that neither the STCW Convention nor the STCW Code were appropriate instruments for including training and certification requirements for company security officers. STW 35, in view of the fact that company security officers were shore-based, invited the Committee to clarify its instruction relating to development of training and certification requirements for company security officers.

- 3 The Committee, at its 78th session (12 to 21 May 2004), advised the STW Sub-Committee that instead of developing mandatory requirements, the Sub-Committee should develop guidelines on training and certification requirements.
- 4 The STW Sub-Committee, at its 36th session (10 to 14 January 2005), developed guidance for training and documentation for company security officers (the Guidance).
- 5 The Committee, at its 80th session (11 to 20 May 2005), approved the Guidance, as set out in annex.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1 The International Ship and Port Facility Code (ISPS Code) requires a shipping company to designate CSO for one or more ships managed by them. The CSO should have appropriate knowledge and received maritime security training. The training requirements of CSO and the topics to be covered in the maritime security training are given in Part A and Part B of the ISPS Code.
- 2 Owners, shipmanagers and shipping companies are recommended to send their shore-based staff designated as CSO(s) to courses which are conducted in accordance with IMO Model course 3.20 and MSC circular MSC/Circ.1154 – “Guidelines on training and certification for company security officer” to provide them with appropriate training to enable them to discharge their duties effectively. A copy of MSC/Circ.1154 circular is attached.

Annex:

IMO Circular MSC/Circ.1154 – “Guidelines on training and certification for company security officer”

- end -