Gibraltar Maritime Administration
HM Government of Gibraltar

Watergate House
2/8 Casemates Square
Gibraltar

Tel (+350)200 46862 / 200 47771 /200 50424
Fax (+350) 200 47770
e-mail: maritime.survey@gibraltar.gov.gi
maritime.registry@gibraltar.gov.gi

Shipping Guidance Notice – 164(b)

IMO RESOLUTION MSC.560(108)
AMENDMENTS TO PART A OF THE SEAFARERS' TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING (STCW) CODE

Revised Guidance
(To be read in conjunction with SGN 164)

To: Mariners and Operators

---

1. References / applicable requirements

- IMO Resolution MSC.560(108)
- STCW Convention & Codes, Part A, Chapter VI, Section A-VI/1, Table A-VI/1-4
- International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 190 - Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019
- Gibraltar Merchant Shipping (Manning, Training and Certification for Seafarers) Regulations 2006
- Maritime Labour Notice (MLN) – 017(b)
- Shipping Guidance Notice 164

2. Background

2.1. Via the publication of Shipping Guidance Notice 164, the Gibraltar Maritime Administration brought to the attention of seafarers serving on Gibraltar registered ships IMO Resolution MSC.560(108), which effective 01 January 2026, brought into effect mandatory amendments to STCW Convention & Codes, Part A, Chapter VI, Section A-VI/1, Table A-VI/1-4.

2.2. IMO Resolution MSC.560(108), adopts additional training requirements associated to 'personal safety and social responsibilities' requirements under STCW Chapter VI, section 2.1.1.4, relating to the prevention and response to bullying and harassment in the maritime sector, including sexual assault and sexual harassment, and which are transposed into STCW via amendments to Table A-VI/1-4.

2.3. Effective 01 January 2026, STCW training aimed at satisfying the requirements of STCW Chapter VI, section 2.1.1.4/ Table A-VI/1-4 'personal safety and social responsibilities' delivered by accredited training providers must encompass the additional adopted requirements.

3. Updated Recommendation & Guidance

3.1. Further to the initial recommendations and guidance contained within SGN 164 in respect of the development of measures and policies to address, prevent, and respond to bullying and harassment including sexual assault and sexual harassment, and following clarification sought at IMO regarding the requirement for all seafarers to complete training covering the additional competence introduced by MSC.560(108), the outcome of the IMO working group and the findings of the HTW Sub-Committee session (February 2026), aim to ensure consistent compliance with updated STCW requirements, and the promotion of safe and respectful working environments across the maritime sector. Pursuant to same, the recommendations and guidance on part of the Gibraltar Maritime Administration are revised as follows:

3.1.1. All seafarers, who are required to hold personal safety and social responsibilities certification must complete additional training covering the new competence introduced by MSC.560(108).

3.1.2. Seafarers who attained personal safety and social responsibilities certification prior to 01 January 2026 which did not include the additional training introduced by IMO Resolution MSC.560(108), should undertake the additional training via an approved training provider, and obtain attesting certification at the earliest opportunity. Certification should reference IMO MSC.560(108) issued under the authority of a White List Flag State.

3.1.3. Failure to complete the training may affect:

- demonstration of compliance during Port State Control inspections, particularly outside the Paris MoU region; or,
- eligibility to work on vessels at sea; or,
- certificate revalidation

3.2. Although the five-yearly revalidation requirements as per STCW Section A-VI/1, paragraph 3, do not currently extend to the elements contained within Table A-VI/1-4, the Gibraltar Maritime Administration is aware that some authorities responsible for the issuance of certificates of competency or proficiency on part of some member states, may require seafarers to provide documentary evidence of attained training in accordance with MSC.560(108) in the form of a certificate issued by a recognised training provider at the time of revalidation. Seafarers serving on Gibraltar registered ships who have not attained certification of training in accordance with MSC.560(108), and who may require revalidation of certificates of competency or proficiency, should make the necessary enquiries with the relevant issuing authority. It is further understood that some member states may provide seafarers some assistance towards achieving the additional training in accordance with IMO MSC.560(108).

3.3. Holders of certificates of competency or proficiency issued by the United Kingdom should refer to MGN 718 (M+F): 2026 IMO Amendment to PSSR - GOV.UK

Steve Gomez - Chief Surveyor
For & on behalf of the Maritime Administrator

Issue date: 22 September 2026

All notices are available through www.gibraltarship.com

This Shipping Guidance Notice has been issued electronically and does not carry a signature or official stamp. A signed and stamped copy is available upon request.