



Department:
Transport
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEMORANDUM

TO: MS DIPUO PETERS, MP

MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

FROM: HAMIDA FAKIRA

DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL: MARITIME TRANSPORT

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR THE MINISTER TO APPROVE THE CONTENTS OF THE SUBMISSION AND CABINET MEMO ON THE RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARD OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCH KEEPING FOR FISHING VESSELS PERSONNEL, 1995(STCW-F)

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this submission is to request the Minister to:

- a) approve the contents of submission and cabinet memo for the ratification of International Convention on Standard of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessels Personnel, 1995 (STCW-F), attached as **Annexure A**, to cabinet; and
- b) sign the attached Cabinet Memorandum (**Annexure B**) requesting Cabinet to approve and support the tabling of International Convention on Standard of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessels Personnel, 1995 (STCW-F), to Parliament.

REQUEST FOR THE MINISTER TO APPROVE THE CONTENTS OF THE SUBMISSION AND OF CABINET MEMO ON THE RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARD OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCH KEEPING FOR FISHING VESSELS PERSONNEL, 1995(STCW-F)

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. South Africa is a member of IMO Council and has continued to actively participate in its work and Committee. By virtue of its position as a Member of the Council it should support its work by ratifying its Conventions that are aimed improving marine environment protection, marine safety and security.
- 2.2. South Africa became a party to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 (herein referred to as STCW Convention), and also intends to become a party to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel, 1995 (herein called STCW-F Convention).
- 2.3. In 1995 the IMO adopted STCW-F Convention. The Convention entered into force in September 2012. The primary objective of the convention is to set standards of certification and prescribe minimum training requirements for crews of seagoing fishing vessels of 24 metres length and above.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1. The STCW-F Convention is the first to establish basic requirements on training, certification and watchkeeping for Fishing Vessels Personnel on an international level. The Convention prescribes minimum standards relating to training, certification and watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel, which countries are obliged to meet or exceed. Presently, it is estimated that annually more than 24. 000 lives are lost world- wide during fishing operations which is a most deploring record