



# ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

## MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

### CIRCULAR N° STCW 010

#### THE AMENDMENTS TO STCW TABLE A-VI/1-4, PERSONAL SAFETY AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**TO:** **SHIPOWNERS, SHIPS' OPERATORS AND  
MANAGING COMPANIES, MASTERS, FLAG STATE'S  
SURVEYORS AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS**

**APPLICABLE TO:** ALL SEAFARERS

**EFFECTIVE AS FROM:** 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026

9<sup>th</sup> December 2025

IMO Resolution MSC.560(108), adopted on 23 May 2024, introduces amendments to Part A, Chapter VI of the STCW Code relating to emergency duties, occupational safety, security, medical care, and survival functions.

Under these amendments, Table A-VI/1-4 (Personal Safety and Social Responsibility, PSSR) has been fully revised to include new competencies related to preventing and responding to violence and harassment; specifically sexual harassment, bullying, and sexual assault. The minimum standards of competence for basic safety training continue to be defined in Tables A-VI/1-1, A-VI/1-2, A-VI/1-3, and the updated Table A-VI/1-4.

This Administration interprets the amendments to STCW Table A-VI/1-4, as adopted by MSC.560(108), to apply only to seafarers undertaking PSSR training on or after 1 January 2026. Seafarers who already possess a valid PSSR certificate will not be required to undergo additional training. This approach aligns with current IMO circulars; however, due to ongoing international uncertainty, further clarification will be sought at the IMO in February 2026.

To ensure effective implementation and uphold safety and welfare standards onboard, please observe the following:

#### Certification Requirements:

- STCW training certificates issued on or after 1 January 2026 must comply fully with the amended Table A-VI/1-4.
- **Existing certificates remain valid until expiry and do not need early replacement.**
- On renewal or revalidation, seafarers must complete training that includes the new competence introduced by MSC.560(108).

#### Requirements for ISM Companies (Managers) and Owners/Operators of non-ISM vessels:

- Companies/Operators are strongly encouraged to provide training and guidance aligned with MSC.560(108) to promote safe and respectful working practices.
- **From 1 January 2026, ensure all joining crew receive familiarisation on the amended PSSR competence, including reporting procedures and the vessel/company zero-tolerance policy.**
- Ensure seafarers due for certificate renewal complete the revised or supplementary training.

- Maintain documented evidence of familiarisation for audit and inspection purposes.
- Ensure shipboard procedures in the Safety Management System address harassment, bullying, and assault in line with the amended STCW Code.
- Lack of adequate records may result in observations or findings during ISM audits, MLC inspections, or AFSIs.