

the seating capacity of the room. While the meeting is open to the public, admittance to the State Department Building is only by means of a pre-arranged clearance list. In order to be placed on the pre-clearance list, please provide your name, title, company, social security number, date of birth, and citizenship to Shirlett Brewer at (202) 647-8345 or by fax at (202) 647-0158. All attendees must use the "C" Street entrance. One of the following valid ID's will be required for admittance: any U.S. driver's license with photo, a passport, or a U.S. Government agency ID.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Timothy C. Finton, Executive Secretary of the Committee, at (202) 647-5385 or <fintontc@ms6820wpoa.us-state.gov>.

Dated: February 1, 1999.

**Timothy C. Finton,**

*Executive Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 2977]

### **Bureau of Administration; Classification Authority Acting Under the Direction of the Senior Agency Official**

By virtue of the authority vested in me as the Senior Agency Official designated under Section 5.6 of the Executive Order on Classified National Security Information (EO 12958), and as Under Secretary of State for Management, I hereby authorize and direct the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Records and Publishing Services (A/RPS) to be the official to classify information on a document-by-document basis consistent with the circumstances and procedures described in section 1.8(d) of EO 12958. This authority shall be limited to information that meets the standards of the Order for classification and has not previously been disclosed to the public under proper authority. The Deputy Assistant Secretary shall act under the direction of the Under Secretary for Management and shall keep me apprised of actions taken under this authority.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** February 12, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Margaret P. Grafeld, Bureau of Administration, Department of State (202-647-6620).

Dated: February 2, 1999.

**Patrick F. Kennedy,**

*Under Secretary for Management, Acting.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### **Coast Guard**

[USCG-1999-5080]

#### **International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as Amended; Development of National Performance Measures for Evaluating Mariner Competence**

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DOT.

**ACTION:** Request for participation; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard is seeking volunteers from members of the maritime industry and other interested persons to serve on work groups being formed by the Coast Guard's Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC) to develop national performance measures for evaluating mariner competence. These measures will be used to facilitate implementation of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended in 1995 (STCW). In addition, the Coast Guard seeks comments on the first set of national performance measures developed, which are for basic safety training.

**DATES:** Requests to participate in a work group must be received by March 1, 1999. Comments regarding the basic safety training performance measures must reach the Docket Management Facility on or before March 15, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Requests to participate in a work group can be submitted in writing to Commandant (G-MSO-1), U.S. Coast Guard, Attn: LCDR George H. Burns III, 2100 Second Street SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001; by telephone 202-267-0550; by fax 202-267-4570; or, by e-mail to [gurns@comdt.uscg.mil](mailto:gurns@comdt.uscg.mil). You may mail comments regarding the basic safety training performance measures to the Docket Management Facility, [USCG-1999-5080], U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001, or deliver them to room PL-401, located on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building at the same address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

The Docket Management Facility maintains the public docket for this notice. Comments and documents as indicated in this preamble will become part of the docket and will be available for inspection and copying at room PL-401, located on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building at the same address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may also access this docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

A copy of the basic safety training performance measures is available in the public docket at the above address or on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>, or you may obtain a copy by contacting the project manager at the number in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For questions on formation of the work groups please contact Lieutenant Commander George H. Burns III, Maritime Personnel Qualifications Division (G-MSO-1), telephone 202-267-0550, fax 202-267-4570, or e-mail [gurns@comdt.uscg.mil](mailto:gurns@comdt.uscg.mil). Questions regarding the basic safety training performance measures should be directed to Mr. John Bobb, Team Leader, Course Approvals, USCG National Maritime Center (NMC-4B), telephone 703-235-8457; fax 703-235-1062; or e-mail [jbobb@ballston.uscg.mil](mailto:jbobb@ballston.uscg.mil). You should continue to address questions concerning the STCW Implementation Focus and Coordination Team to the Team Leader, Captain Robert L. Skewes (G-MSO), telephone 202-267-0212; fax 202-267-4570; or e-mail [rskewes@comdt.uscg.mil](mailto:rskewes@comdt.uscg.mil). Questions concerning STCW requirements and enforcement should continue to be directed to the Coast Guard National Maritime Center at (703) 235-0018. Captain William C. Bennett, e-mail [wbennett@Ballston.uscg.mil](mailto:wbennett@Ballston.uscg.mil), retains responsibility for administering the Mariner Licensing and Documentation Program, including STCW implementation. For questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, contact Dorothy Walker, Chief, Dockets, Department of Transportation, telephone 202-366-9329.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Background Information**

In 1991, the United States became a party to STCW. The primary intent of STCW is to set minimum international qualifications for masters, officers, and watchkeeping personnel on seagoing merchant ships. STCW does not apply to mariners on inland merchant vessels, but does apply to mariners on domestic voyages if the vessel operates beyond the boundary line.