

**Resolution A.770(18)**

*Adopted on 4 November 1993  
(Agenda item 11)*

**MINIMUM TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR PERSONNEL NOMINATED  
TO ASSIST PASSENGERS IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS  
ON PASSENGER SHIPS**

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Article 15(j) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Assembly in relation to regulations and guidelines concerning maritime safety,

CONSIDERING regulation III/10.2 of the amendments to chapter III of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, which requires a sufficient number of trained persons to be on board for mustering and assisting untrained persons,

BEARING IN MIND that training of the personnel assigned to specified duties in case of an emergency in high-density passenger ships or ferries engaged in short international voyages is essential,

NOTING that there are no mandatory training and qualification requirements for personnel assigned to specific duties on passenger ships except ratings forming part of the navigational watch and ratings nominated to assist the engineer officer in charge of the engineering watch in the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978,

NOTING FURTHER that resolution 19 of the International Conference on Standards of Training and Certification of Seafarers, 1978, requires all seafarers to be trained in personal survival techniques,

RECALLING ALSO resolution A.437(XI), which recommends training of crew in fire-fighting,

RECALLING FURTHER resolution A.438(XI), which recommends training and qualification of persons in charge of medical care on board ship,

HAVING CONSIDERED the recommendation made by the Maritime Safety Committee at its sixty-second session,

1. ADOPTS the Recommendation on the Minimum Training Requirements for Personnel Nominated to Assist Passengers in Emergency Situations on Passenger Ships, set out in the annex to the present resolution;
2. URGES Governments to implement the Recommendation.

Annex

**RECOMMENDATION ON MINIMUM TRAINING REQUIREMENTS  
FOR PERSONNEL NOMINATED TO ASSIST PASSENGERS IN EMERGENCY  
SITUATIONS ON PASSENGER SHIPS**

**1 GENERAL**

**1.1** Personnel nominated on muster lists to assist passengers in emergency situations should receive additional training to enable them to perform their duties properly. The number of trained persons should always be sufficient to assist the total number of passengers who may be on board at any one time. The number of trained persons should be included on the ship's safe manning document.

**1.2** Where training is given in a shore-based training course, it should be supplemented by shipboard training before assuming the duties referred to in 1.1. The training should be to the satisfaction of the Administration. Administrations should establish some means of ensuring that crew members maintain continued proficiency through periodic refresher training, drills or related work experience.

**1.3** Communication skills should be sufficient to assist passengers during an emergency, taking into account the following criteria:

- .1** the language or languages appropriate to the principal nationalities of passengers carried on a particular route;
- .2** the likelihood that an ability to use elementary English vocabulary for basic instructions can provide a means of communicating with a passenger in need of assistance whether or not the passenger and crew member share a common language;
- .3** the possible need to communicate during an emergency by some other means (e.g. by demonstration, or hand signals, or calling attention to the location of instructions, muster stations, life-saving devices or evacuation routes) when verbal communication is impractical;
- .4** the extent to which complete safety instructions have been provided to passengers in their native language or languages; and
- .5** the languages in which emergency announcements may be broadcast during an emergency or drill to convey critical guidance to passengers and to facilitate crew members in assisting passengers.

**1.4** The training should include but not necessarily be limited to the following items.

## **2 THEORETICAL**

**2.1** Awareness of life-saving appliance plans and fire control plans. Knowledge of muster lists and emergency instructions, including:

- .1** general alarms and procedures for mustering of passengers, and
- .2** areas of responsibility with emphasis on "own section".

**2.2** General layout of the ship, with special emphasis on location of muster and embarkation stations, accesses and escape routes.

**2.3** Location and use of emergency equipment relevant to the duties in 1.1 with emphasis on "own section" and escape routes therefrom.

**2.4** Location of adult and infant lifejackets.

**2.5** Location of other evacuation supplies, e.g. blankets, to be taken to survival craft.

**2.6** Elementary first aid and transportation of casualties.

**2.7** Communication:

- .1** the use of internal communication systems;
- .2** raising the alarm;
- .3** alerting the passengers; and
- .4** reporting and notification.

## **2.8** Evacuation:

- .1 the use of passenger lists or counts;
- .2 the alarm signals;
- .3 mustering; importance of keeping order and panic-avoidance procedures;
- .4 emergency exits;
- .5 evacuation equipment;
- .6 control of passengers in corridors, staircases and passage ways;
- .7 maintenance of escape routes clear of obstructions;
- .8 assistance *en route* to muster and embarkation station;
- .9 methods available for evacuation of disabled persons and persons needing special assistance;
- .10 restrictions on the use of elevators;
- .11 search of accommodation spaces; and
- .12 ensuring that the passengers are suitably clothed and have donned their lifejackets correctly.

## **2.9** Fire situations:

- .1 fire detection and initial containment;
- .2 raising the alarm;
- .3 danger of smoke inhalation; and
- .4 breathing protection.

## **2.10** Abandon ship situations:

- .1 correct use of individual survival equipment, e.g., lifejackets, immersion suits, lifebuoys, light and smoke signals, etc.; and
- .2 need for assistance to special cases.

## **3 PRACTICAL**

**3.1** Familiarization by means of repeated organized guided tours on board.

**3.2** Repeated participation in fire drills and lifeboat drills, including transportation of simulated casualties.

**3.3** Repeated exercise in use of equipment, such as donning of lifejackets and appropriate protective clothing.

**3.4** Repeated exercise in use of internal communication systems.

**3.5** Repeated exercises in evacuation.