

Nr. 90

30 January 2002

Upon the authority granted in § 18, Clause 3 and § 24, Clause 2 of enabling legislation Parliamentary Act No. 63, dated 3 July 1998, on the Manning of Ships, the following directive is hereby promulgated:

§ 1. It is the responsibility of the master of every ship to ensure that regular, effective watch is maintained on the bridge and in the engine room at all times outside a port or protected anchorage, and in addition a regular, effective radio watch is maintained on ships fitted with required radio equipment.

Clause 2. It is the responsibility of the Master of every ship, except pleasure yachts, to ensure that, for the safety of the vessel and its crew, regular, effective watch is maintained when the ship is moored at port or lies at anchor in a protected anchorage.

Clause 3. In assigning the watch, the rules and regulations stipulated in Annex 1 of this Directive on watchkeeping and the general regulations regarding watchkeeping shall be followed. In this regard, the guidelines set forth in Annex 2 of this Directive shall also be observed and taken into consideration.

§ 2. The watch assignments shall be so organized that the efficiency of the watchkeeping officers or ratings is not impaired by fatigue. Watchkeeping duties shall be organized such the individuals holding the first watch at the commencement of a voyage, and the subsequent relief watches, are sufficiently rested and otherwise fit for duty.

§ 3. For small ships in which the on-board design of the ship, the purpose of the voyage or the size and composition of the crew is such that these watchkeeping regulations cannot be fully complied with, said watchkeeping regulations shall be followed to the degree possible. In all cases, however, a proper lookout shall be maintained from the deck or wheel house outside a port or protected anchorage.

§ 4. On ships of 20 gross tonnage or more, and on ships governed by other relevant laws regarding watchkeeping, lookout duties shall only be performed by individuals who have passed the prescribed vision and hearing examinations for seafarers.

§ 5. For merchant ships whose minimum safe manning requirements stipulate that ratings shall hold watchkeeping certificates, only ratings issued such certificates pursuant to Regulation II/4 or III/4 of the STCW Convention may undertake watchkeeping duties.

Clause 2. Able ratings holding watchkeeping certificates shall be fully qualified for service in the bridge or engine departments, respectively, pursuant to Regulation II/4 or III/4 of the STCW Convention. Other ratings shall at the very least hold a watchkeeping certificate issued by the Faroese Maritime Authority with an endorsement stating that the holder may only form part of the navigational or engineering watch under the direct supervision of the relevant officer in charge of the watch.

Clause 3. A certificate, endorsement in a seaman's discharge book or other documentation that certifies a seafarer is qualified to form part of a navigational watch pursuant to Regulation II/6 of the STCW Convention, and that is accompanied by documentation of having passed the vision and hearing examination for seafarers, is considered to be equivalent to the certificates prescribed in Clauses 1 and 2 above until 1 February 2002.

§ 6. On merchant ships, watch schedules shall be posted where they are easily accessible.

§ 7. Violation of the provisions in this Directive shall be punishable by a fine.

§ 8. This Directive enters into force on the day after it is promulgated. Concurrently, Directive No. 143, dated 20 October 1992 regarding watchkeeping on ships is rescinded.

Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, 25 May 2000

Anfinn Kallsberg /Signature/  
Prime Minister

Andras Kristiansen /Signature/