



# Antigua and Barbuda

## Maritime Administration

STCW Circular  
No. 2025-003  
20 November 2025

**SUBJECT:** Amendments to STCW Regulation VI, Basic Training, and Familiarization

**REFERENCE:**

- a) *Antigua and Barbuda Merchant Shipping Act 2006, as amended*
- b) *International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978 Reg. VI and Section A-VI/1 of the Code*

**TO:** Ship-owners, operators, masters and officers of Antigua and Barbuda flagged ships, and recognized filing agents.

### 1. PURPOSE

This Circular provides information on the amendments to table A-VI/1-4 of the STCW Code, on “Mandatory minimum requirements for safety familiarization, basic training and instruction for all seafarers”. A new competence has been added to the table:

**“Contribute to the prevention of and response to violence and harassment, including sexual harassment, bullying and sexual assault.”**

### 2. APPLICATION

This Circular applies to all Antigua and Barbuda flagged ships

### 3. BACKGROUND

The 2010 Amendments to the STCW Convention 1978 have modified the requirements for Basic Training set out in Regulation VI/1 of the Convention. Accordingly, the Antigua and Barbuda Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping (ADOMS) wishes to inform owners and managers that as of 01 January 2026, the new requirements, applicable to all seafarers will enter into force.

#### **4. OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Seafarers shall be required to hold a Certificate of Proficiency as evidence that they have achieved the required standard of competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities as set out in the STCW Code in:
  1. Table A-VI/1-1 personal survival techniques
  2. Table A-VI/1-2 fire prevention and fire fighting
  3. Table A-VI/1-3 elementary first aid
  4. Table A-VI/1-4 personal safety and social responsibilities (subject to amendment)
2. Starting on 01 January 2026, the new competence will become a mandatory part of basic training courses. Previously issued certificates of proficiency in basic training remain valid for the time being. However, as of 01 January 2031 all seafarers must meet the new requirements.

#### **Issued by**

Antigua and Barbuda  
Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping  
(ADOMS) St. John's