

- (i) by approved radiocommunications service as a radio officer with no single interruption of service exceeding five years;
- (ii) following such interruption, by passing an approved test or successfully completing an approved training course or courses at sea or ashore, which shall include elements that are of direct relevance to the safety of life at sea and modern radiocommunication equipment and may also include radionavigation equipment.

2. When new modes, equipment or practices are being introduced aboard ships entitled to fly its flag, the Administration may require radio officers to pass an approved test or successfully complete an appropriate training course or courses, at sea or ashore, with particular reference to safety duties.

3. Every radio officer shall, to continue to qualify for sea-going service on board particular types of ships for which special training requirements have been internationally agreed upon, successfully complete approved relevant training or examinations which shall take into account relevant international regulations and recommendations.

4. The Administration shall ensure that the texts of recent changes in international regulations relating to radiocommunications and relevant to the safety of life at sea, are available to ships under its jurisdiction.

5. Administrations are encouraged, in consultation with those concerned, to formulate or promote the formulation of a structure of refresher and updating courses, either voluntary or mandatory, as appropriate, at sea or ashore, for radio officers who are serving at sea and especially for re-entrants to sea-going service. The course or courses shall include elements that are of direct relevance to radio duties and include changes in marine radiocommunication technology and relevant international regulations and recommendations\* concerning the safety of life at sea.

### **Regulation IV/3**

#### *Mandatory Minimum Requirements for Certification of Radiotelephone Operators*

1. Every radiotelephone operator in charge of, or performing, radio duties in a ship shall hold an appropriate certificate or certificates issued or recognized by the Administration under the provisions of the Radio Regulations.
2. In addition, such radiotelephone operator of a ship which is required to have a radiotelephone station by the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, shall:
  - (a) be not less than 18 years of age;
  - (b) satisfy the Administration as to medical fitness, particularly regarding eyesight, hearing and speech;
  - (c) meet the requirements of the Appendix to this Regulation.

\* Including any IMCO recommendations concerning the development of the maritime distress system.