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A1/V/5.02 (NV.3)

He has the honour to refer to the 2010 Manila amendments to the Annex to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, and the 2010 Manila Amendments to the Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code, which were adopted by the Conference of Parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, held in Manila, the Philippines, from 21 to 25 June 2010.

Certified true copies of the amendments in the English, French and Spanish languages were transmitted under cover of Note Verbale A1/V/5.02 (NV.1), dated 14 February 2011. Certified true copies of the amendments in the Arabic, Chinese and Russian language were transmitted under cover of Note Verbale A1/V/5.02 (NV.2), dated 21 March 2011.

At the time of their adoption, the Conference determined that the amendments shall be deemed to have been accepted on 1 July 2011, unless, prior to that date, more than one-third of Parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, or Parties, the combined merchant fleets of which constitute not less than 50% of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping of ships of 100 gross register tons or more, have notified the Secretary-General that they object to the amendments. The Conference further determined that the amendments shall enter into force on 1 January 2012, upon being deemed to have been so accepted.

On 13 June 2011, the Secretary-General received a communication from the Embassy of Finland, informing him as follows:

"The Embassy hereby informs, with reference ... to article XII(1)(a)(vii) and XII(1)(a)(ix) of the STCW Convention, that, due to national procedural requirements, Finland is obliged to object to the above-mentioned amendments.

The Embassy has the honour to inform the Secretary-General that the Government of Finland intends to accept the amendments as soon as the legislative amendments necessary to such acceptance have been carried out. The Government of Finland will not fail to inform the Secretary-General of any developments in this respect."

No further notifications in this regard having been received, the amendments were deemed to have been accepted on 1 July 2011, and will, accordingly, enter into force on 1 January 2012 for all Parties to the Convention, except Finland.

25 July 2011

RPP