

English translation of the text of the German „Schiffsoffizier-Ausbildungsverordnung”  
in force since its last amendment of 28 July 1998 (BGBl. I p. 1938)

**Ordinance**  
**on the Training and Certification of Masters**  
**and Ship Officers of the Deck and Engine Department**  
**(Ship Officers Training Ordinance)**

**§1**

**Application**

This Ordinance shall apply to the training and certification of masters and ship officers of the deck and engine department, the certification of ratings forming part of a navigational watch or an engineering watch and to the additional training and certification of masters, officers and ratings on certain types of ships.

**§2**

**Definitions**

- (1) „Convention” means the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, (BGBl. 1982 II p. 297) and the amendments to the annex of this Convention adopted in Resolutions 1 and 2 of the Final Act of the Conference of the Parties to the International Maritime Organization on 7 July 1995 (BOBl. 199711 p. 1118).
- (2) The definitions and clarifications laid down in chapter I regulation III paragraph (1) (1), (2), (12), (14), (16), (19), (21), (22), (24) and paragraph 2(1) and (2) of the annex to the Convention as well as in section A-I/I of the STCW Code shall be applied.

(3) The following shall mean:

1. „Month: a calendar month or 30 days made up of periods of less than one month.
2. Seagoing service”: service on board a ship relevant to the issue of a certificate or other qualification,
3. Overall ship operation”: ship operations with crew members performing duties in the deck as well as in the engine department.

(4) The definitions specified in § 2, paragraph 5 (1) to (3), (5), (7) to (13), (22a) and (23) of the Maritime Safety Ordinance, as amended in the public announcement of 3 September 1997 (BGBl. I p. 2217), shall be applied.

### **§3**

#### **Certificates**

##### **for service in the deck department of merchant ships with the exception of fishing vessels**

(1) For the service in the deck department of merchant ships of all sizes and on all routes, with the exception of fishing vessels, there shall be the certificates as

1. Navigational Watchkeeping Officer
2. Chief Mate
3. Master

(2) For the service in the deck department on merchant ships of up to 500 gross tonnage in the „*Nationale Fahrt*”, with the exception of fishing vessels, there shall be the certificates as

1. Officer
2. Master.

**§4**

**Certificates**

**for service in the deck department of fishing vessels**

(1) There shall be certificates for masters and deck officers on fishing vessels:

1. for masters:

a) BG:

Master BG with the following competences:

Master on fishing vessels of all sizes in the „*Große Hochseefischerei*“;

Performing the duties of a chief mate on fishing vessels of all sizes in the „*Große Hochseefischerei*“;

b) BK:

Master BK with the following competence:

Master on fishing vessels in the „*Kleine Hochseefischerei*“;

c) BKu:

Master BKU with the following competence:

Master on fishing vessels up to 75 gross registered tons / 150 gross tonnage in coastal fishing;

2. for deck officers:

a) BGW:

Deck officer BGW with the following competence:

Performing the duties of a second deck officer on fishing vessels of all sizes in the „*Große Hochseefischerei*“;

b) BKW:

Deck officer BKW with the following competence:

Performing the duties of a deck officer on fishing vessels in the „*Kleine Hochseefischerei*“.

**§5**

**Certificates**

**for service in the engine department on merchant ships**

(1) For service in the engine department of ships of all propulsion powers there shall be the certificates as

1. Engineering Watchkeeping Officer
2. Second Engineer officer
3. Chief Engineer officer

(2) For service in the engine department of ships with a propulsion power of up to 750 kW there shall be the certificate as a ship engine operator („Schiffsmaschinist“).

**§ 5a**

**Certificates for ratings forming part of a navigational  
and/or an engineering watch on merchant ships**

For ratings forming part of a navigational and/or an engineering watch on merchant ships there shall be a certificate which qualifies them for watch duties on ships of all sizes and/or any propulsion power.

**§6**

**Competence inclusion in certificates**

The BKW certificate shall incorporate the competences of the BKO certificate, if its holder is not less than 20 years of age.

## **§7**

### **General prerequisites for certification**

The certificates mentioned in the above §§ 3 to 5 may be held by Germans within the meaning of the Basic Law who

1. have the personal aptitude (§ 8)
2. have the required minimum age (§ 9)
3. have the required practical training and seagoing service (§§ 10, 14 to 16)
4. have the vocational aptitude (§ 18)
5. have successfully completed the training for a certificate of proficiency in advanced fire-fighting and survival craft and rescue boats, meeting the standards of section A-VI/2 paragraph 1 to 4 and of section A-VI/3 of the STCW Code
6. as candidates for certification in accordance with § 3 paragraph 1 and § 4 (1) (a) and (b) and (2) also hold the general operator's certificate for radio operators, and, as candidates for certification in accordance with § 3 paragraph (2) and in § 4 (1) (c), hold the restricted operator's certificate for radio operators II (VHF operator's certificate II) and
7. as candidates for certification in accordance with § 5. with the exception of the certificate in accordance with § 5 (2), have also documentary evidence as operators of steam boilers on seagoing ships, the vocational aptitude to operate and maintain refrigerating equipment and sufficient knowledge regarding the operation and maintenance of electrical installations and equipment on seagoing ships.

## **§8**

### **Personal aptitude**

Personal aptitude for certification shall especially not be considered as being available in the case of those candidates who cannot provide proof of their aptitude for service on board or for a particular type of service on board a ship in the form of a certificate as required in § 14 paragraph (3) of the Ordinance on Physical Fitness for Sea Service of 19 August 1970 (BGBl. I p. 1241), as amended.



**§9**

**Minimum age**

Minimum age for certification as a navigational watchkeeping officer, as an engineering watch keeping officer, as an officer in accordance with § 3 (2), for certification in accordance with § 5 (2) and for certification in proficiency in advanced fire-fighting and in survival craft and rescue boats shall be 18 years of age; for certification as ratings forming part of a navigational watch or an engineering watch - 16 years of age.

**§10**

**Training and seagoing service for certification as seafarer  
in the navigational service on board a ship**

(1) For certification as a navigational watchkeeping officer the candidate, notwithstanding any regulation in accordance with the Länder legislation, shall

1. a) provide proof of having passed the final examinations in recognized job training as a ship mechanic or
- b) have an approved practical training and seagoing service as assistant deck officer of at least 12 months, which may also be held as a school-based work experience or in the form of practical semesters during training at a training facility set up in accordance with the Länder legislation and -
2. in the cases of figure 1 (b), keep an approved training record book, where the master or a competent officer shall confirm that during training on board the relevant requirements of sections A-II/1 and A-II/2 of the STCW Code have been met and
3. have completed a training period of at least two years in accordance with the requirements of sections A-II/1, A-II/2 and A-VI/4 paragraphs 1 to 6 of the STCW Code while attending a training facility set up in accordance with the Länder legislation.

- (2) For certification as chief mate the candidate shall have completed an approved seagoing service of at least 12 months as Navigational Watchkeeping Officer.
- (3) For certification as master the candidate, in addition to the seagoing service required under paragraph 2, shall have completed another seagoing service of at least 12 months as chief mate or of 24 months as Navigational Watchkeeping Officer.
- (4) For certification as officer on board a ship of up to 500 gross tonnage in the „Nationale Fahrt“, the candidate shall
  1. a) provide proof of having passed the final examinations in recognized job training as a ship mechanic or
  - b) have completed an approved seagoing service of at least 36 months in the deck and navigational service and
  2. have completed a training course of usually half a school year at a training facility set up in accordance with the Lander legislation, as required in Annex 1
- (5) For certification as master on board a ship of up to 500 gross tonnage in the „Nationale Fahrt“ the candidate shall have completed a seagoing service of at least 12 months as officer.

**§§ 11 to 13**

(deleted)

**§14**

**Practical training and seagoing services for  
BGW, BG, BKW, BK and BKLI certification**

- (1) For certification as 6GW deck officer the candidate, prior to attending a training facility set up in accordance with the Lander legislation, shall
1. have a seagoing service in deck duties of at least forty eight months, in the case of mesh makers - twenty four months, of which at least eighteen months shall have to be spent on deep-sea fishery vessels or
  2. be the holder of a certificate as ship mechanic or deck hand or provide proof of having passed the final examination as fisherman with particular emphasis on small-scale deep-sea and coastal fishery and have a seagoing service of twelve months on deck of vessels of the fishing fleet.
- (2) For certification as BKW deck officer and for certification as BKU master the candidate, prior to attending a training facility set up in accordance with the Lander legislation, shall hold the certificate as a ship mechanic, a deck hand or provide proof of having passed the final examination as fisherman with particular emphasis on small-scale deep-sea and coastal fishery and have a seagoing service of twelve months on deck of vessels of the fishing fleet.
- (3) For certification as BG master and BK master the candidate shall have a seagoing service of twenty four months as officer on vessels of the fishing fleet.

**§15**

**Training and seagoing services for  
certification as seafarer in the engine department**

- (1) For certification as an engineering watchkeeping officer, the candidate, notwithstanding the regulations required by the Lander legislation, shall

1. a) provide proof of having passed the final examinations in recognized job training as a ship mechanic and have a seagoing service in the engine room of at least six months or
  - b) provide proof of having passed the final examinations in recognized job training in a relevant field of mechanical or electrical engineering and have a seagoing service in the engine room of at least twelve months or
  - c) provide proof of having passed the final examinations in any other recognized job training in the field of mechanical or electrical engineering and have a seagoing service in the engine room of at least 18 months or
  - d) have an approved practical training and a seagoing service as an assistant engineer officer of at least 18 months, which may also be held as a school-based work experience or in the form of practical semesters during training at a training facility set up in accordance with the Lender legislation and
2. keep an approved training record book, where the chief engineer officer or a competent officer shall confirm that the relevant requirements of sections A-III/1 and A-III/2 of the STOW Code have been met during training on board and
  3. have completed a training period of at least two years in accordance with the requirements of sections A-III/1, A-III/2 and A-VI/4 paragraphs (1) to (3) of the STCW Code, while attending a training facility set up in accordance with the Länder legislation.
- (2) For certification as second engineer officer the candidate shall have a seagoing service of at least 12 months as Engineering Watchkeeping Officer.
- (3) For certification as chief engineer officer the candidate, in addition to the seagoing service required under paragraph 2. shall have another seagoing service of at least 24 months as second engineer officer or any other engineer officer in a responsible position.
- (4) For certification as seafarer performing duties in the engine department in accordance with § 5 (2) the candidate shall
1. a) provide proof of having passed the final examinations in recognized job training as a ship mechanic or

- b) provide proof of having passed the final examinations in recognized job training in the field of mechanical or electrical engineering and a seagoing service in the engine department of at least six months or
  - c) hold a certificate entitling the candidate to work in the navigational field and
2. have completed a training course of usually half a school year at a training facility set up in accordance with the Länder legislation, as required in Annex 3.

## **§16**

### **Training and seagoing services for certification as seafarers performing duties both in the deck and the engine department**

- (1) For simultaneous certification as a navigational watchkeeping officer and as an engineering watchkeeping officer, the candidate, notwithstanding the regulations stipulated in the Länder legislation, shall -
- 1. a) provide proof of having passed the final examinations in recognized job training as a ship mechanic and have a seagoing service in the engine department of at least six months or
  - b) have an approved practical training and seagoing service as an assistant officer for overall ship operation of at least 24 months, which may also be held as a school-based work experience or in the form of practical semesters while attending a training facility set up in accordance with the Länder legislation or
  - c) have a training and seagoing service required under § 10 (1) (1) (b) and in accordance with § 15 (1) (1) (d) and
2. keep approved training record books, where the master, the chief engineer officer or any competent officer shall confirm that the relevant requirements of sections A-II/1, A-II/2, A-III/1 and A-III/2 of the STCW Code have been met and
3. have completed a training period of at least three years in accordance with the requirements of sections A-II/1, A-II/2, A-VI/4, A-III/1 and A-III/2 of the STCW Code at a training facility set up in accordance with the Länder legislation.

- (2) For simultaneous certification as chief mate and second engineer officer, the candidate shall have a seagoing service of 24 months as officer in charge of a watch in the field of overall ship operation. Records providing proof of such service shall have to be presented.
  
- (3) For simultaneous certification as master and chief engineer officer, the candidate, in addition to the seagoing service required under paragraph 2. shall have another seagoing service of 24 months as officer in charge of overall ship operation. Records providing proof of such service shall have to be presented.

**§17**

(deleted)

## §18

### Vocational entrance examination

- (1) The proof of vocational aptitude for certification as master or ship officer shall be provided by a vocational entrance examination conducted by a public examination committee which shall be set up in accordance with an examination ordinance to be issued pursuant to § 142 (1) of the Law on Seafarers.
- (2) Final examinations at the training facilities set up in accordance with the Länder legislation shall be recognized as vocational entrance examinations for the purposes of paragraph 1, provided that the provisions of § 2 (2) 2 of the Law on Tasks of the State in the field of Maritime Shipping, as amended in the pronouncement of 27 September 1994 (BGBl. I, p. 2802), have been met, if they establish the required knowledge and proficiency in accordance with the binding standards regarding the master and the deck department in sections A-II/1, A-II/2 and A-VI/4 (1) to (6) of the STCW Code, regarding the engine department in sections A-III/1, A-III/2 and A-VI/4 (1) to (3) of the STCW Code, and for certification pursuant to § 3 (2), § 4 and § 5 (2) in the areas listed in annexes 1 to 3 and take into consideration paragraphs 3 to 4 and the requirements stipulated in the administrative agreements with a Land.
- (3) Admission to examinations shall be granted to candidates who have completed training and seagoing service as required under §§ 10 and 14 to 16 as well as training at a training facility set up in accordance with the Länder legislation
  - a) for a duration as required under §§ 10, 15 and 16 and
  - b) for certification pursuant to § 4 for a duration as required under paragraph 4.
- (4) The duration of training in accordance with paragraph 3 (b) shall usually comprise for certification as
  - a) BGW - four half-years
  - b) BKW - two half-years
  - c) BKU - one half of a half-year.

**§ 18a**

**Basic safety training  
and instruction for seafarers**

All seafarers who start employment on board a seagoing ship for the first time shall provide proof of their participation in an approved familiarization and basic safety training and instruction pursuant to the requirements specified in section A-VI/1 of the STCW Code.

**§ 18b**

**Requirements regarding the qualification  
of ratings forming part of a watch**

- (1) For certification as ratings forming part of a navigational watch the candidate shall have completed a training and seagoing service of at least six months. In this period the candidate shall perform the duties of a navigational watch under the direct supervision of the master, the Navigational Watchkeeping Officer or a competent rating, which meet the requirements specified in section A-II/4 of the STCW Code.
- (2) For certification as ratings forming part of an engineering watch the candidate shall have completed a training and seagoing service of at least six months. In this period the candidate shall perform the duties of an engineering watch under the direct supervision of a competent engineer officer or a competent rating, which meet the requirements specified in section A-III/4 of the STCW Code.
- (3) Trainees for the vocation of a ship mechanic in their second and third years of training shall meet the requirements for certification as ratings forming part of a watch; the same applies for ratings who have performed a navigational or engineering watch in a relevant capacity for at least one year during the five years preceding 1 February 1997.

**§ 18c**

**Additional requirements for the training and qualifications of masters, officers and ratings of tankers**

- (1) Every candidate for certification for the duties on tankers as masters, officers, ratings and other personnel shall meet the requirements, specified in paragraphs 2 to 4, regarding the training and standard of competence in accordance with the tasks assigned to them.
  
- (2) Officers and ratings who are assigned special tasks and responsibilities with regard to cargoes and cargo equipment on tankers shall have completed, in addition to the required training specified under § 18a, an approved fire-fighting course on the shore and shall
  1. have completed at least three months of an approved seagoing period on a tanker, in order to acquire sufficient knowledge of safe working practice or
  2. have completed an approved familiarization course for the duties on tankers, which shall at least meet the requirements listed in section A-V/i of the STCW Code.
  
- (3) Masters, chief engineer officers, chief mates, second engineer officers and any person assigned immediate responsibility for loading, discharging and safe practice in transporting and handling cargo shall meet the requirements laid down in paragraph 2, and in addition to that shall
  1. have the experience pertinent to their tasks on the type of tanker (oil tanker, chemical tanker or liquid gas tanker on which they perform their duties and
  2. have participated in a relevant approved advanced tanker training programme meeting at least the relevant requirements of section A-V/i of the STCW Code.
  
- (4) The participation in an advanced tanker training programme shall not be required. if the persons listed under paragraph 2 have served in a corresponding capacity on board the relevant type of tanker for at least 12 months within the five years preceding 1 February 1999

**§ 18d**

**Additional requirements for the training and qualifications of masters, officers, ratings and other personnel of ro-ro passenger ships**

- (1) Every candidate for certification for the duties on ro-ro passenger ships as masters, officers, ratings and other personnel shall meet the training requirements as specified in paragraphs 2 to 6 in accordance with the tasks assigned to them. Certificates for training pursuant to paragraphs 2, 5 and 6 shall have a validity of five years and may be extended for another five years, when providing proof of having participated in a corresponding refresher course.
- (2) Masters, officers and other personnel designated on muster lists to assist passengers in emergency situations on board ro-ro passenger ships shall have completed an approved crowd management training, as specified in the requirements of section A-V/2 (1) of the STOW Code.
- (3) Masters, officers and other personnel designated for special tasks and responsibilities on board ro-ro passenger ships shall have completed an approved familiarization training, as specified in the requirements of section A-V/2 (2) of the STCW Code.
- (4) The personnel providing direct service to passengers in passenger spaces on board ro-ro passenger ships shall have completed an approved safety training, as specified in the requirements of section A-V/2 (3) of the STCW Code.
- (5) Masters, chief mates, chief engineer officers, second engineer officers and any person assigned immediate responsibility for embarking and disembarking passengers, loading, discharging or securing cargo or for closing hull openings on board ro-ro passenger ships shall have completed an approved passenger safety, cargo safety and hull integrity training, as specified in the requirements of section A-V/2 (4) of the STOW Code.
- (6) Masters, chief mates, chief engineer officers, second engineer officers and any person assigned immediate responsibility for the safety of passengers in emer-

gency cases on board ro-ro passenger ships shall have completed an approved crisis management and human behaviour training, as specified in the requirements of section A-V/2 (5) of the STCW Code.

### **§§ 19 and 19a**

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### **§ 20**

#### **Issue of certificates**

- (1) The certificates and evidences of competence
  - a) in accordance with § 3 (1) and § 5 (1) shall be issued as shown in the formats of annex 4
  - b) in accordance with § 3 (2) and § 5 (2) shall be issued as shown in the format of annex 5
  - c) in accordance with § Sa shall be issued as shown in the format of annex 6
  - d) in accordance with § 7 (5) shall be issued as shown in the format of annex 7
  - e) in accordance with § 18a shall be issued as shown in the format of annex 8
  - f) in accordance with § 18c shall be issued as shown in the format of annex 9
  - g) in accordance with § 18d shall be issued as shown in the format of annex 10 and
  - h) in accordance with § 4 shall be issued as shown in the format of annex 12.

The authorities in charge of issuing certificates and evidences of competence in accordance with clause 1, including the authorities named by the Länder on the basis of administrative agreements for the purposes of § 2 (2) of the Law on the Tasks on Sea for issuing certificates for masters and ship officers shall be announced by the Federal Ministry for Transport.
- (2) When certificate of a higher order is issued, a certificate of the lower order shall be withdrawn, provided that the latter's competences are included in the certifi-

cate of the higher order. The possession of a certificate which is not subject to withdrawal shall be notified on the certificate acquired more recently.

## **§ 21**

### **Issue and cancellation of endorsements on the recognition of certificates**

- (1) Certificates issued by others than the countries listed under § 21a, and the holders of which are nationals of another country than the one listed under § 21 a, shall be recognized by the Federal Ministry for Transport or by an agency authorized by it with the issue of an endorsement pursuant to the format shown in annex 11, provided that
  1. the certificate presented for recognition was issued by one of the Parties to the Convention and
  2. a) the Party to the Convention mentioned under figure 1 received confirmation from the International Maritime Organization to the effect that it has provided proof of the unrestricted application of the Convention or
  - b) the procedure pursuant to article 9 (3) of Directive 94/58/EC guarantees that the Party to the Convention mentioned under figure 1 meets the requirements of the Convention at least with regard to seagoing service, education, training and competence.
  
- (2) Before being assigned to shipboard duties at the management level, the candidate shall provide proof of the successful participation in a course on German Navigation Law approved by the Federal Ministry for Transport or of having passed a relevant aptitude test.
  
- (3) The validity of the endorsement pursuant to paragraph 1 shall not exceed the validity of the certificate presented for recognition.

- (4) The recognition pursuant to paragraph 1 may be withdrawn, if a seafarer is banned from sailing on board a ship. In such a case the foreign authority, which has issued the certificate, shall be notified of the surrounding circumstances.

### **§ 21 a**

#### **Equivalent certificates**

- (1) A certificate for the purposes of §§ 3, 4, 5 and 30 shall also be considered a certificate, if a national of a member state of the European Union or of another Party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area holds a valid certificate for the purposes of Directives 89/48 EEC or 92/51 EEC, which the person is required to have in another member state of the European Union or in other Parties to the Agreement on the European Economic Area for performing those duties in the deck and engine department of a ship, which are intended to be performed on a ship flying the Federal flag, and if this certificate has been acquired in a member state of the European Union or in another Party to the Agreement in the European Economic Area.
- (2) As far as the performance of duties on the management level is concerned, a seafarer, before being assigned to shipboard duties, shall have successfully participated in a course on German Navigation Law approved by the Federal Ministry for Transport or have passed a relevant aptitude test pursuant to article 4 (1) (b) of Directives 89/48 EEC or 92/51 EEC.
- (3) § 14(2) of the Manning Ordinance shall not apply to the above persons.
- (4) § 24 (1) (2) shall apply accordingly.

**§ 21 b**

**Equivalent exercise of a vocation**

Holding a valid document of vocational competence for the purposes of § 21 a (1) shall be considered equivalent to meeting the requirements which an applicant shall have to prove pursuant to article 3 (b) of Directive 89/48 EEC or pursuant to article 3 (b), article 5 (b) or article 6 (b) of Directive 92/51 EEC, provided that the applicant has completed a relevant adaptation course or passed an aptitude test for the purposes of article 4 of the above Directives.

**§ 21 c**

**Certification of validity**

- (1) The Wasser- und Schifffahrtsdirektion Non! shall issue, on application,
1. certifications of validity for the certificates specified under § 21a and
  2. certifications of conformity for the documents mentioned under § 21b.
- (2) In doing so, it shall comply with the procedure for the purposes of article 8 of Directive 89/48/EEC and of article 12 of Directive 92/51/EEC and shall take into account the appropriate job title in accordance with the duty performed. The certifications issued pursuant to paragraph 1 shall not be longer valid than the relevant certifications issued by the country of origin.

**§ 22**

**Replacements of certificates**

- (1) A person who satisfies an authority of the loss of a certificate shall receive, upon application, another copy from the issuing authority, provided that the documentation for the issue of the certificate is available. The authority may accept an affirmation in lieu of an oath.

(2) Certificates which are reported lost shall be publicly declared void.

### **§ 23**

#### **Withdrawal of certificates**

A certificate may be withdrawn by the issuing authority, if the prerequisites for its issue are not or no longer given.

### **§ 24**

#### **Special cases**

The issue of certificates to persons who are not Germans within the meaning of the Basic Law, but who meet the requirements for certification (§ 7) may be permitted. In this case, however, a navigational certificate shall not be considered an authorization for the person to be master of ships flying the German flag. This limitation shall be stated on the certificate. Authorization shall be given by the Ministry of Transport or the agency assigned by it.

### **§ 25**

#### **Continuation of competence**

- (1) If the certification for masters and officers dates back more than five years, they shall have to provide proof of their continued competence before being assigned their duties on board by
- a) a seagoing service as master or officer of at least one year during the preceding five years or
  - b) a seagoing service of at least three months as redundant officer immediately before being assigned the duties as master or officer, or a seagoing service in a lower position than entitled by the highest competence shown on their certificate or

- c) duties which the Ministry for Transport or an agency assigned by it shall deem as appropriate to keep up the continuation of competence or
  - d) the successful participation in an approved test or a refresher course within 24 months prior to the assignation of duties on board.
- (2) To enable seafarers to perform their seagoing services pursuant to paragraph 1 (b), the authorities, issuing the certificates, may issue special permits.
- (3) Paragraph 1 shall not apply to duties on fishing vessels.

## **§ 26**

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### **§ 26 a**

#### **Approval of BKU masters as chief engineer officer on fishing vessels in coastal fishing**

Holders of the certificate as BKU master who have passed their final examinations at a training facility set up in accordance with the Länder legislation or who have passed a final examination to become a fisherman with particular emphasis in their work on small-scale deep-sea and coastal fishing, thus having sufficient knowledge and capabilities in motoring, shall be granted, on application, the following amendment to be entered on their BKU certificate:

Shall be entitled to serve as chief engineer officer on fishing vessels in coastal fishing, powered by main propulsion machinery of up to 300 kW.

## **§ 27**

### **Deviations from the regular course of vocational training**

- (1) In individual cases the Federal Ministry for Transport may permit deviations from §§ 10. 14 to 16, if the candidate is able to provide proof that on the basis of a different type of training and duties he/she has acquired knowledge and capabilities which meet the requirements of these provisions. The candidate may transfer the permission of the deviations mentioned in clause 1 to the „Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt und Hydrographie“.
- (2) The Federal Ministry for Transport or the agency assigned by it may recognise competences acquired during service in the Bundeswehr, provided that they meet the requirements contained in this Ordinance.
- (3) The Federal Ministry for Transport or the agency assigned by it may recognise competences of the „Wasserschutzpolizei“ for certification pursuant to § 3 (2) and pursuant to § 5 (2), provided that they meet the requirements contained in this Ordinance.

## **§ 28**

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## **§ 29**

### **Supervision of training**

The Berufsbildungsstelle Seeschifffahrt e. V. shall supervise the practical training of assistant officers. In doing so it shall be placed under the special supervision of the Federal Ministry for Transport or the agency assigned by it.

**§ 30**

**Continued validity and exchange of hitherto existing certificates**

- (1) For the purposes of this Ordinance hitherto existing certificates shall constitute:
1. Certificates issued in accordance with the provisions of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, applied prior to 1 February 1997, and
  2. Certificates which on the basis of the transitional provisions of article VII of the Convention have been recognized as valid or equivalent.
- (2) Hitherto existing certificates may not be extended beyond 1 February 2002. They shall be exchanged for certificates in accordance with §§ 3 and 5, pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4.
- (3) The following hitherto existing certificates shall be exchanged, on application and subject to a fee, provided that the competence continues to exist:
1. Deck department
    - a) A 6, AG, AM and A 4 (GDR)  
for the certificate pursuant to § 3(1) (3);
    - b) AGW, AMW. A 5 (GDR) and A 3 (GDR)
      - aa) with a seagoing service of more than one year as deck officer  
for the certificate pursuant to § 3 (1) (2),
      - bb) with a seagoing service of less than one year as deck officer  
for the certificate pursuant to § 3(1) (1),
    - c) A 4, AK and A 2 (GDR)  
for the certificate pursuant to § 3 (1) (3) with the restriction  
„on ships of 6,000 gross tonnage in the „Mittlere Fahrt””
    - d) AKW and A 1 (GOR)
      - aa) with a seagoing service of more than one year as deck officer  
for the certificate pursuant to § 3 (1) (2) with the restriction  
on ships of 6,000 gross tonnage in the „Mittlere Fahrt””

bb) with a seagoing service of less than one year as deck officer for the certificate pursuant to § 3 (1) (1) with the same restriction as under aa;

## 2. Engine department

a) C 6, CI, Ctand C4(GDR)

for the certificate pursuant to § 5(1) (3);

b) CIW, CTW, C 5 (GDR) and C 3 (GDR)

aa) with a seagoing service of more than one year as engineer officer for the certificate pursuant to § 5 (1) (2),

bb) with a seagoing service of less than one year as engineer officer for the certificate pursuant to § 5(1) (1).

(4) Hitherto existing certificates not listed under paragraph 3 shall be exchanged, on application and subject to a fee, for certificates pursuant to this Ordinance provided that the competence continues to exist, and the hitherto existing competences shall be recorded in these certificates under restrictions'. If such certificates include extensions of competence, such extension of competence shall be recorded under „restrictions”, thus deviating from clause 1.

(5) Evidences of competence, certificates of entitlement or service certificates which all entitle the holder to perform the duties of master, skipper or officer and are considered as certificates to which the Convention does not apply, may be exchanged, on application and subject to a fee, for certificates pursuant to § 3 (2) or to § 5 (2).

(6) Certificates issued for merchant ships which are utilized for fishing shall not be affected.

**§31**

**Transitional provisions**

Training periods and seagoing services commenced prior to 1 August 1998 as a prerequisite for certification for navigational duties on merchant ships, with the exception of fishing vessels, and for certification for engineering duties, may be terminated until 1 February 2002 at the latest, pursuant to the type and duration approved in the provisions valid so far, rather than pursuant to the prerequisites stipulated under § 7 (3) and (4).

**§ 32**

(deleted)

**§ 33**

**(Entry into Force and Expiration)**

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Annexes not included.