

The Secretary
Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Michael,

It has been a pleasure working with you on the Inquiry.

This note relates to your letter of June 16th and your request to get AMC's view on any barriers that currently exist for Australians training on overseas ships.

With overseas ships, I assume you mean non-Australian or foreign flag ships.

As I am sure the Committee members are aware, Australian seagoing qualifications (Certificate of Competency) are issued by the Australian Maritime safety Authority to those candidates who successfully complete an approved (by AMSA) programme of study.

As such, there are no legal or procedural barriers for Australian seafarers to gain their required sea service on board foreign flag ships. In fact AMC has had students from overseas, sponsored by non-Australian companies, who have successfully completed their sea service on board those vessels.

In practice though, it is very difficult, if not impossible to find foreign flag ship-owners or operators to provide the required opportunities for Australian seafarers. There currently no incentive to promote this route.

I hope that you find this useful.

Kind regards

Malek

Professor Malek Pourzanjani
Principal
Australian Maritime College

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