



Technical Information

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To : Whom It May Concern

Subject : Summary Report on IMO Meeting of Maritime Safety Committee 97th Session (MSC 97)

Summary

This Technical Information summarizes the result of 97th Session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 97) that was held from the 21 to 25 November 2016, at the IMO headquarters in London.

Information

1. The information provided in this Technical Information are the ones which have high relevance with the work of BKI or considered as an essential information for interested parties.
2. The following agenda are among those discussed during the meeting :

Agenda Number	Topic
2	Decisions of other IMO bodies
3	Consideration and adoption of amendments to mandatory instruments
4	Measures to enhance maritime security
5	Goal-based new ship construction standards
6	Mandatory instrument and/or provisions addressing safety standards for the carriage of more than 12 industrial personnel on board vessels engaged on international voyages
8	Ship systems and equipment (report of the third session of the Sub-Committee)
9	Implementation of IMO instruments (report of the third session of the Sub-Committee)
10	Carriage of cargoes and containers (urgent matters emanating from the third session of the Sub-Committee)
16	Implementation of instruments and related matters
21	Any Other Business

3. The Agenda above are several technical issues discussed during the meeting. A brief coverage among the issues are expressed in the attached document.

More info

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BRIEF INFORMATION ON IMO MEETING OF MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE 97TH SESSION (MSC 97)

A. DECISIONS OF OTHER IMO BODIES (AGENDA ITEM 2)

Having noted decision taken by MEPC 70 regarding provision of fuel oil sulphur limit used on board ships under MARPOL Annex VI, some delegations expressed their concern on safety of the ship and person on board. The concern arose because the existing IGF Code may not cover all ships required to use fuel oil with low Sulphur content.

In addition, MEPC 70 agreed to consider the potential amendments to the 2013 Interim guidelines for determining minimum propulsion power to maintain the manoeuvrability of ships in adverse conditions (resolution MEPC.262(68)). In this matter, Committee is of the view that their consideration should be taken into account.

Therefore, in order to ensure that safety aspects were adequately covered, the Committee agreed to invite MEPC 71 to:

- provide the relevant information to the Committee
- forward the proposed revised Guidelines to the Committee

B. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO MANDATORY INSTRUMENTS (AGENDA ITEM 3)

In its 97th session, Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) discussed and decided several draft amendments to IMO mandatory instruments.

Amendments to 1974 SOLAS Convention

- Amendments to Chapter II-1 cover, among others:
 - Application date of the amendments to this Chapter (regulation 1)
 - Definitions of Amidship, Draught, Deepest subdivision draught, Trim, dan Bulkhead deck (regulation 2)
 - Protection against noise (regulation 3-12)
 - Part B-Subdivision and Stability concerning the requirements of damage stability for passenger ships
 - The requirements of double bottoms in passenger ships and cargo ships other than tankers (regulation 9)
 - New requirements which allow the use of a butterfly valve fitted in the pipe(s) piercing the collision bulkhead in all cargo ships, as an alternative mean (regulation 12)
 - New requirements of watertight doors shall take into account MSC Circular on *Guidance which may be opened during navigation for watertight doors on passenger ships which may be opened during navigation* (regulation 22).

Having noted the discussion taken during this session, the Committee agreed to adopt these amendments, except to regulation 3-12, is scheduled to be adopted at the next session of the Committee. Amendments to regulation 3-12 are expected to enter into force on 1 January 2020.

- Amendments to Chapter II-2 contain the exemption from the requirement to have an approved foam-type extinguisher of at least 135 l (liters) capacity for domestic boilers of less than 175 kW, or boilers protected by fixed water-based local application fire-extinguishing systems. These amendments are adopted in this session and expected to enter into force on 1 January 2020.

- Amendments to Chapter III comprise, among others:
 - The application date of amendments to this Chapter (regulation 1)
 - New regulation 19-1 regarding damage control drill
 - Requirements of damage control drill for passenger ship (regulation 30)
 - Requirements of muster list and emergency instructions (regulation 37)
 These amendments are adopted in this session and expected to enter into force on 1 January 2020.

- Amendments to Chapter XI-1 are related to harmonisation of survey periods of cargo ships not subject to the ESP Code (regulation 2-1). These amendments are adopted in this session and expected to enter into force on 1 January 2020.

Amendment to FSS Code

Amendments to FSS Code are related to Chapter 13 of the Code (Arrangement of Means of Escape) concerning members of the crew in public spaces occupied to one third of the maximum capacity.

These amendments are adopted in this session and will enter into force on 1 January 2020.

IGC Code

Amendments to IGC Code deal with the deletion of the wording required wheelhouse windows constructed to at least "A-0" class (for external fire load).

These amendments are adopted in this session and will enter into force on 1 January 2020.

2011 ESP Code

Amendments to 2011 ESP Code include the following matters:

- The requirements to execute thickness measurements of the area subject to close up surveys
- Exclusion of internal check of box type hatch cover
- Tank testing procedure

These amendments are adopted in this session and will enter into force on 1 July 2018.

2008 IS Code

Amendments to 2008 IS Code contain the amendment to the Introduction, Part A and B of the Code.

In the amendments to Introduction and Part A, the new requirements under Part B regarding ships engaged in anchor handling, towing and lifting operations are introduced.

While, the amendments to part B of the 2008 IS Code stipulate recommended stability criteria for anchor handling, towing and lifting operations.

These amendments are adopted in this session and will enter into force on 1 January 2020.

C. MEASURES TO ENHANCE MARITIME SECURITY (AGENDA ITEM 4)

Following the approval of MSC.1/Circ.1526 on Interim Guidelines on maritime cyber risk management, a proposal requested the Committee to:

- consider the development of a mandatory Code.
- include the Guidelines into ship security plans.

After the discussion made in plenary, the Committee could not agree with proposal, however; the Committee is of the view that further development of Guidelines are important. Therefore, the Committee agreed to wait for FAL 41 to complete the work on facilitation aspects before giving any further consideration to the possible mandatory nature of the Guidelines.

Furthermore, MSC 97 agreed to the development of a data transfer mechanism for the Maritime Security module of GISIS. This development is intended to facilitate the transfer and updating of such information into the Maritime Security module of GISIS directly from national databases which are updated locally in order to fulfill requirements under SOLAS regulation XI-2/13 and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code. Upon the approval, member states were invited to submit any procedures to be followed or conditions relating to the use of such a mechanism.

D. GOAL-BASED NEW SHIP CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS (AGENDA ITEM 5)

Taking into account the decision taken by MSC 96, in this session, Committee commenced the work on the improvement of *Guidelines for verification of conformity with goal-based ship construction standards for bulk carriers and oil tankers (GBS Verification Guidelines) (resolution MSC.296(87))* by establishing Working Group on Goal-based Standards.

The working group instructed to:

1. prepare draft amendments to part A of the GBS Verification Guidelines (resolution MSC.296(87))
2. update the revised timetable and schedule of activities for the implementation of the GBS verification scheme by taking into account the progress made on the amendments to the GBS Verification Guidelines;
3. if time permits, consider potential financial arrangements for the maintenance of verification audits, and advise the Committee accordingly;

Following the report of the working group, MSC 97 accepted and approved, among others:

- progress made by the Working Group on the preparation of draft amendments to the GBS Verification Guidelines
- the Working Group recommendation to invite Member States and international organizations to submit proposals related to the concept of an ongoing systematic verification of rules, i.e. "Periodic verification", in the Revised GBS Verification Guidelines
- revised timetable

Timeline	Action
May 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSC 96 takes final decisions on conformity with GBS for all rules submitted • MSC 96 circulates appropriate MSC circular to Member Governments • Secretariat maintains list of all rules verified to conform to Standards • MSC 96 agrees on the revised timetable and schedule of activities for the implementation of the GBS verification scheme • Secretary-General notifies the relevant Administrations/ROs of MSC's decision
1 July 2016	GBS SOLAS amendments (and Standards) become applicable
November 2016	MSC 97 reconsiders the verification process and funding mechanism, and initiates the consideration of amendments to GBS Verification Guidelines, taking into account the observations provided by the audit teams (MSC 96/5/2)
31 December 2016	Deadline for the receipt of new self-assessment and verification request for the rectification of non-conformities, as well as the status of addressing of observations
January 2017 to March 2017	Secretariat organizes verification audit for the rectification of non-conformities and finalizes report
March 2017	Secretariat prepares documentation on audit for the rectification of non-conformities and the status of addressing of observations
June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSC 98 confirms that the non-conformities are rectified and circulates appropriate MSC circular to Member Governments • MSC 98 finalizes the amendments to part A on verification process to the GBS Verification Guidelines for future audits • MSC 98 takes decisions on the funding mechanism for future audit • Secretariat maintains list of all rules verified to conform to Standards
31 December 2017	Deadline for the receipt of rule change information and request for new initial verification audits, if any
January 2018 to June 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretariat organizes audits of rule changes, ad hoc rule change audits and new initial verification audits as may be requested • Secretariat processes any appeal requests
July 2018	Secretariat prepares documentation on annual audits, ad hoc rule change audits and new initial verification audits
November 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSC 100 finalizes the amendments to part B on information/documentation requirements and evaluation criteria of the GBS Verification Guidelines, and adopts the Revised GBS Verification Guidelines • MSC 100 takes decisions on annual audits, ad hoc rule change audits and new initial verification audits
November 2019	The Revised GBS Verification Guidelines take effect

- the decision of the working group to request the Committee to adopt the draft Revised GBS Verification Guidelines when the amendments to both parts A and B are finalized.

E. MANDATORY INSTRUMENT AND/OR PROVISIONS ADDRESSING SAFETY STANDARDS FOR THE CARRIAGE OF MORE THAN 12 INDUSTRIAL PERSONNEL ON BOARD VESSELS ENGAGED ON INTERNATIONAL VOYAGES (AGENDA ITEM 6)

MSC 96 agreed to develop new chapter of SOLAS (Chapter XV) and associated Code in order to address issues on the carriage of more than 12 industrial personnel for the purpose of offshore activities.

However, the work of on the development of a mandatory instrument will require many hours of work to be completed. Thus, MSC 96 also agreed that interim solution should be explored.

Taking into account legal advice from the IMO Secretariat, MSC 97 agreed to create a definition of industrial personnel by means of an MSC resolution, specifically stating that industrial personnel are not passengers within the meaning of SOLAS regulation I/2(e), identify the applicable interim standards within this resolution and establish Working Group on Carriage of industrial personnel accordingly.

Following the discussion in plenary on the report of the working group, the Committee agreed to:

- adopt resolution MSC.418(97) on Interim Recommendations on the safe carriage of more than 12 industrial personnel on board vessels engaged on international voyages
- endorse the group's view that the proposed definitions of industrial personnel and industrial activities should be the basis for the development of the mandatory instrument
- approve the roadmap for further developments and instruct the SDC Sub-Committee to follow the approved roadmap when developing the draft new code and the new SOLAS chapter [XV]

Year	IMO Body	Action
2017	SDC 4	Using the outcome of the discussions at MSC 96 and MSC 97, begin the development of the draft new code and the new SOLAS chapter [XV]
2018	SDC 5	Continue the development of the draft new code and the new SOLAS chapter [XV], in association with other relevant Sub-Committees, as and when necessary
2019	SDC 6	Continue the development of the draft new code and the new SOLAS chapter [XV], in association with other relevant Sub-Committees, as and when necessary
2020	SDC 7	Finalize the draft new code Finalize the amendments to SOLAS (new chapter [XV])
2020	MSC 102	Approve the amendments to SOLAS (new chapter [XV]) Approve, in principle, the draft new code
2020	MSC 103	Adopt amendments to SOLAS (new chapter [XV]), with entry into force date of 1 January 2024 Adopt the draft new code, with entry into force date concurrent with new SOLAS chapter [XV] Approve early voluntary application resolution
2024	-	Entry into force of new SOLAS chapter [XV] Entry into force of new code

- d) encourage Member States and international organizations to submit concrete proposals for consideration at SDC 4

F. SHIP SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT (AGENDA ITEM 8)

MSC 97 considered the report of the SSE 3 and approved:

- draft amendments to SOLAS regulation II-2/9.4.1.3
- approved the draft amendment to SOLAS regulation II-2/3.56
- the draft amendments to the 1994 and 2000 HSC Codes providing the possibility of exempting high-speed crafts of less than 30 m (2000 HSC Code) and less than 20 m (1994 HSC Code) in length from carrying a rescue boat.
- MSC circular on Early implementation of the amendments to the 1994 and 2000 HSC Codes
- draft amendments to paragraphs 6.1.1.5 and 6.1.1.6 of the LSA Code and draft amendments to paragraph 8.1.1 of part 1 of the annex to the Revised recommendation on testing of life saving appliances (resolution MSC.81(70)).
- MSC.1/Circ.1550 on Unified Interpretations relating to the application of SOLAS regulations II-2/10.2.2.4.1.2, II-2/10.7.3.2.3 and II-2/19.3.1, as amended, and paragraph 2.2.1.1 of Chapter 12 of the FSS Code
- MSC.1/Circ.1552 on Amendments to the Guidelines on alternative design and arrangements for fire safety
- MSC.1/Circ.1553 on Shipboard escape route signs and emergency equipment location markings
- MSC.1/Circ.1554 on Unified interpretation of chapter 9 of the FSS Code
- MSC.1/Circ.1555 on Unified interpretations of SOLAS chapter II-2
- MSC.1/Circ.1556 on Unified interpretation of chapter 8 of the FSS Code and the Revised guidelines for approval of sprinkler systems equivalent to that referred to in SOLAS regulation II-2/12 (resolution A.800(19)), as amended by resolution MSC.265(84)
- MSC.1/Circ.1490/Rev.1 on Amendments to the Unified interpretation of SOLAS regulation III/31.1.4
- MSC.1/Circ.1557 on Unified interpretations of SOLAS regulation II-1/45.11
- MSC.1/Circ.1558 on Fire pumps in ships designed to carry five or more tiers of containers on or above the weather deck
- MSC.1/Circ.1490/Rev.1 on Amendments to the Unified interpretation of SOLAS regulation III/31.1.4 (MSC.1/Circ.1490).

All amendments to mandatory instruments under this agenda item will be submitted to MSC 98 for adoption.

G. IMPLEMENTATION OF IMO INSTRUMENTS (AGENDA ITEM 9)

MSC 97 considered report of III 3 and decided to, among others:

- endorse, subject to concurrent decision by the MEPC, the issuance of III.3/Circ.4 on Casualty Analysis and Statistics, containing observations on the quality of reports of investigation into casualties.

- endorse, subject to concurrent decision by the MEPC, the agreed methodology for developing Guidelines on port State control
- approve the draft MSC-MEPC.5/Circ.12 circular on Unified Interpretation on the expiration date of statutory certificates, subject to concurrent decision by the MEPC.
- approve the consolidated draft FAL.2-MEPC.1-MSA.1 circular on List of certificates and documents required to be carried on board ships, subject to concurrent decision by the MEPC

H. CARRIAGE OF CARGOES AND CONTAINERS (AGENDA ITEM 10)

MSC 97 considered urgent matters emanating from CCC 3 and decided to, among others:

- adopt Resolution MSC.420(97) on Interim recommendations for carriage of liquefied hydrogen in bulk and the associated draft MSC resolution.
- approve MSC.1/Circ.1559 on unified interpretations of the IGF Code.
- approve the draft amendments to paragraphs 4.5.1 and 4.5.2 of the IMSBC Code, highlighting the responsibility of the shipper for ensuring that a test to determine the transportable moisture limit (TML) of a solid bulk cargo is conducted, with a view to subsequent adoption at MSC 98 in conjunction with the adoption of the draft amendments (04-17) to the IMSBC Code.
- approve the draft amendments to the IMSBC Code related to substances that are harmful to the marine environment
- approve draft amendments to SOLAS regulation II-2/20.2.

I. IMPLEMENTATION OF INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED MATTERS (AGENDA ITEM 16)

MSC 97 discussed the proposals submitted under this agenda, upon the discussion, the Committee agreed and approved:

- MSC.1/Circ.1562 on Unified Interpretation of SOLAS Regulation XI-1/7 providing clarification regarding suitable means to calibrate portable atmosphere testing instruments.
- MSC.1/Circ.1563 on Unified Interpretations of SOLAS Regulations XIV/2.2 and Paragraphs 1.3.2 and 1.3.6, PART I-A of the Polar Code providing clarification on the requirements related to the initial and maintenance surveys required by the Polar Code

Furthermore, MSC 97 invited MSC 98 to consider and approve the draft MSC-MEPC circular and draft amendments to the IBC, BCH, GC, IGC and EGC Codes, for concurrent approval by MEPC 71, concerning approved stability documentation on the Certificate of Fitness.

J. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (AGENDA ITEM 21)

Taking into account the adoption of resolution MSC.401(95) on Performance standards for multi-system shipborne radionavigation receivers, MSC 97 approved draft amendments to SOLAS Form E, part 3, item 3.1 and Forms C and P, part 5, item 3.1 to include the option of multi-system shipborne radionavigation receivers. This amendments will be submitted to MSC 98 for adoption.

K. LIST OF MSC RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY MSC 97

- Resolution MSC.409(97) – Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety Of Life At Sea, 1974, As Amended
- Resolution MSC.410(97) – Amendments to the International Code for Fire Safety Systems (FSS Code)
- Resolution MSC.411(97) – Amendments to the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases In Bulk (IGC Code)
- Resolution MSC.412(97) – Amendments to the International Code On the Enhanced Programme of Inspections During Surveys Of Bulk Carriers And Oil Tankers, 2011 (2011 ESP Code)
- Resolution MSC.413(97) – amendments to the Introduction and Part A of the International Code on Intact Stability, 2008 (2008 IS Code) (under the 1974 SOLAS Convention)
- Resolution MSC.414(97) – Amendments to the Introduction and Part A of the International Code on Intact Stability, 2008 (2008 IS Code) (Under the 1988 Load Lines Protocol)
- Resolution MSC.415(97) – Amendments to Part B of the International Code on Intact Stability, 2008 (2008 IS Code)
- Resolution MSC.416(97) – Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification And Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended
- Resolution MSC.417(97) – Amendments to Part A of The Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) Code
- Resolution MSC.418(97) – Interim Recommendations on Safe Carriage of more than 12 Industrial Personnel On Board Vessels Engaged on International Voyages
- Resolution MSC.419(97) – Amendments to the General Provisions On Ships' Routeing (Resolution A.572(14), As Amended)
- Resolution MSC.420(97) – Interim Recommendations for Carriage of Liquefied Hydrogen in Bulk

L. LIST OF MSC CIRCULARS APPROVED BY MSC 97

- MSC.1/Circ.1549 - Notification of an amendment to paragraph 3.2.5 of the IGC Code
- MSC.1/Circ.1550 - Unified interpretations relating to the application of SOLAS regulations II-2/10.2.2.4.1.2, II-2/10.7.3.2.3 and II-2/19.3.1, as amended, and paragraph 2.2.1.1 of chapter 12 of the FSS Code
- MSC.1/Circ.1259/Rev.7 - Amendments to the LRIT technical documentation, Part I
- MSC.1/Circ.1364/Rev.1 - Amendments to the International SafetyNET Manual
- MSC.1/Circ.1403/Rev.1 - Amendments to the NAVTEX Manual
- MSC.1/Circ.1495/Rev.1 - Revised unified interpretation of SOLAS regulation V/23.3.3 on Pilot transfer arrangements
- MSC.1/Circ.1551 - Navigational Warnings concerning operations endangering the Safety of Navigation
- MSC.1/Circ.1552 - Amendments to the Guidelines on alternative design and arrangements for fire safety
- MSC.1/Circ.1553 - Shipboard escape route signs and emergency equipment location markings
- MSC.1/Circ.1554 - Unified interpretation of chapter 9 of the FSS Code
- MSC.1/Circ.1555 - Unified interpretations of SOLAS chapter II-2

- MSC.1/Circ.1556 - Unified interpretation of chapter 8 of the FSS Code and the Revised guidelines for approval of sprinkler systems equivalent to that referred to in SOLAS regulation II-2/12 (resolution A.800(19)), as amended by resolution MSC.265(84)
- MSC.1/Circ.1490/Rev.1 - Amendments to the Unified interpretation of SOLAS regulation III/31.1.4
- MSC.1/Circ.1557 - Unified interpretations of SOLAS regulation II-1/45.11
- MSC.1/Circ.1558 - Fire pumps in ships designed to carry five or more tiers of containers on or above the weather deck
- MSC.1/Circ.1559 - Unified interpretations of the IGF Code
- MSC.1/Circ.1560 - Unified interpretations of the IGC CODE (as amended by resolution MSC.370(93))
- MSC.1/Circ.1562 - Unified interpretation of SOLAS regulation XI-1/7
- MSC.1/Circ.1563 - Unified interpretation of SOLAS regulation XIV/2.2 and paragraphs 1.3.2 and 1.3.6, part I-A of the Polar Code
- MSC.1/Circ.1426/Rev.1 - Revised Unified interpretation of SOLAS regulation II-1/3-5
- MSC.1/Circ.1460/Rev.1 - Revised Guidance on the validity of radiocommunications equipment installed and used on ships
- STCW.6/Circ.12 - Amendments to part B of the Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) Code
- MSC-MEPC.2/Circ.4 - Guidelines for port State control officers on the ISM Code
- MSC-MEPC.5/Circ.11 - Amendments to the Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification, 2015, for Ships Operating in Polar Waters
- MSC-MEPC.5/Circ.12 - Unified Interpretation on the expiration date of statutory certificates

M. LIST OF DRAFT INSTRUMENTS IN MSC 97

- Draft Amendments to SOLAS Regulation II-2/9.4.1.3
- Draft Amendments to SOLAS Regulation II-2/3.56
- Draft Amendments to the 1994 HSC Code
- Draft Amendments to The 2000 HSC Code
- Draft Amendments to Paragraphs 6.1.1.5 And 6.1.1.6 of the LSA Code
- Draft Amendments to Paragraphs 4.5.1 and 4.5.2 to the International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code
- Draft Amendments to SOLAS Regulation II-2/20.2
- Draft Amendments to the International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code related to Substances that are Harmful to the Marine Environment
- Draft Amendments to SOLAS Forms E, C And P