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Agenda item 10

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## CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE FACILITATION COMMITTEE

### Note by the Secretary-General

#### SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This document reports on the outcome of the thirty-fifth session of the Facilitation Committee
<i>Strategic direction:</i>	1, 1.3 and 8
<i>High-level action:</i>	1.1.1, 1.3.4, 8.1.1, 8.2.1 and 8.3.1
<i>Planned output:</i>	1.1.2.3, 1.3.4.3, 8.1.1.1 and 8.3.1.2
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 57
<i>Related document:</i>	FAL 35/17

#### INTRODUCTION

1 The report of the thirty-fifth session of the Facilitation Committee (FAL 35/17) is submitted to the 102nd session of the Council in accordance with the provisions of Article 49(b)\* of the IMO Convention.

2 The session, the first since the Committee's institutionalization under the IMO Convention, was held from 12 to 16 January 2009 under the chairmanship of Mr. C. Abela (Malta). It was attended by 64 Member States, one Associate Member, one United Nations specialized agency, 4 intergovernmental organizations and 17 non-governmental organizations in consultative status.

3 Decisions taken by the Committee during the session under review are summarized in the ensuing paragraphs.

#### ADOPTION AND PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

4 Pursuant to the provisions of Article 50 of the IMO Convention, the Committee adopted its Rules of Procedure. These are set out in annex 1 of its report (FAL 35/17) and will be published, together with the Rules of Procedure of the other bodies of the Organization, in the

\* This article can be found in resolution A.724(17) (part 4 of the Basic documents, Volume I), which is now in force.

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new edition of the publication “Basic Documents – Volume I”, which, *inter alia*, will include a consolidated version of the IMO Convention, incorporating the 1991 amendments thereto.

#### **ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CONVENTION ON FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL MARITIME TRAFFIC 1965, AS AMENDED**

5 The Committee, on 16 January 2009, unanimously adopted, by resolution FAL.10(35), and in accordance with article VII(2)(a) of the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic 1965, as amended (the Convention), amendments to the Annex to the Convention regarding the arrival, stay and departure of the ship; contents and purpose of documents; arrival and departure of persons; requirements and procedures; measures to facilitate clearance of cargo, passengers, crew and baggage; and facilitation for ships engaged on cruises and for cruise ship passengers.

6 The Committee also unanimously decided that the said amendments should enter into force, in accordance with article<sup>1</sup> VII(2)(b) on 15 May 2010, unless, prior to 15 February 2010, at least one-third of the Contracting Governments to the Convention (Contracting Governments) have notified the Secretary-General in writing that they do not accept the amendments.

#### **GENERAL REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION**

##### **Status of the Convention**

7 The Committee noted that, since FAL 34, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, the United Republic of Tanzania and Panama had acceded to the Convention on 4 July 2007, 10 March 2008, 23 July 2008 and 1 September 2008, respectively. As a result, the number of Contracting Governments was 114 which was an increase of four since FAL 34.

##### **Review of Standards and Recommended Practices in the Annex to the Convention to which differences have been registered by Contracting Governments**

8 The Committee recalled that FAL 34 had reaffirmed the need for the review of Standards<sup>2</sup> and Recommended Practices<sup>3</sup> to which differences had been registered by Contracting Governments and that this task remained one of the strategic directions identified in the Role, mission, strategic direction and work of the Committee as adopted during FAL 32.

9 FAL 34 had agreed that, for this task to be advanced, it needed to have before it up-to-date information from all Contracting Governments concerning differences to the Standards and the implementation of Recommended Practices and to this end it approved FAL.3/Circ.187 on Review of Standards and Recommended Practices.

10 The Committee was advised that, in addition to the information provided to FAL 34, since its last session, only three completed replies had been received to the questionnaire as issued in FAL.3/Circ.187; these replies were from Japan, New Zealand and Hong Kong, China.

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<sup>1</sup> *Article* means an article of the Convention.

<sup>2</sup> *Standards* means Standards contained in the Annex to the Convention.

<sup>3</sup> *Recommended Practices* means Recommended Practices contained in the Annex to the Convention.

11 In addition, since FAL 34 there had been four notifications of differences under article VIII. These were from:

- .1 Australia, in relation to the differences between Australian practices relating to crew lists and the present Standards 2.6.1 and 3.45; and
- .2 Romania, Denmark and the Netherlands in relation to differences between the provisions of certain Standards and the European Community legislation.

### **Comprehensive revision of the Convention**

12 The Chairman suggested and the Committee agreed that, with the lack of submissions and the overall lack of responses to the questionnaire, it appeared that the time had come to review the whole Convention, particularly in view of recent developments including, for example, the amendments to the 1974 SOLAS Convention, in relation to the ISPS Code and the problems of disembarkation of persons rescued at sea, illegal migrants, etc. In addition, bearing in mind the Assembly's view in relation to the achievement of the balance between security and facilitation, the question arose as to whether the Convention should be expanded to address contemporary problems such as shore leave; other issues that had arisen in the ship-to-shore interface; and developments in electronic communications and transmission of data.

13 A number of delegations indicated that by making the provisions of the Annex to the Convention more binding, the Convention could make a positive contribution towards enhancing the facilitation of maritime traffic and travel. One delegation suggested that the provisions of articles VIII(1) and VIII(3) in relation to notifications might need to be revised and modernized. Two observer delegations suggested that the provisions of the Annex to the Convention could be reviewed and updated with a view to ensuring reduction of the burden and harmonization with the work done by other bodies of the Organization on matters which fall within the scope of the Convention.

14 The Committee agreed to initiate a comprehensive revision of the Convention with a view to ensuring that it adequately addresses the present and emerging needs of the shipping industry as well as for modernization of its provisions taking into account for example and, *inter alia*, developments in the field of the transmission of information and data by electronic means and the Single Window concept. The Committee also agreed that the related work should be carried out under the agenda item on General review and implementation of the Convention and, at least for the time being, there was no need to introduce a new specific agenda item in this respect.

15 The Committee invited Contracting Governments and Member States, especially the ones which encounter difficulties in acceding to the Convention, to submit relevant proposals together with associated justification, in terms of the philosophy to be followed when conducting such a review; new issues which might need to be addressed in the Convention; and existing provisions which might warrant amendment.

### **Development of an explanatory manual to the Convention**

16 The Committee made substantial progress on the development of an explanatory manual to the Convention and established a correspondence group to continue such work intersessionally with a view to finalization at FAL 36.

## **ELECTRONIC MEANS FOR CLEARANCE OF SHIPS**

### **Updating of the IMO Compendium on facilitation and electronic business**

17 The Committee made progress on matters relevant to the transmission by electronic means of information relating to the clearance of ships and the revision of the IMO Compendium on facilitation and electronic business, including other electronic data interchange related issues; and invited Member States and organizations to keep it informed of developments in this regard. The Committee established a correspondence group to progress matters pertaining to electronic means for clearance of ships intersessionally.

### **Proposed development of guidelines for setting up the Single Window system in maritime transport**

18 The Committee recalled that the role, mission, strategic direction and work of the Committee, *inter alia*, provided that the Committee should encourage the use of information and communication technology to drive continuous improvement and innovation in the facilitation of maritime traffic and, in particular, to promote the wider use of the Single Window concept for pre-arrival information, to allow all the information required by public authorities to be provided by a visiting ship to a port through one secure and reliable point of entry; consider the most appropriate way to facilitate the process of clearing the ship, its cargo, passengers and crew, by using information technology solutions; and to identify possible technical assistance measures to expand information technology and e-business in the area of maritime traffic, particularly in developing countries.

19 The Chairman suggested that a proposal from the Republic of Korea on the development of guidelines for setting up the Single Window system in maritime transport appeared to be, in the context of the Role, mission, strategic direction and work of the Committee, promoting the achievement of the aims of the Committee, as long as such guidelines take into account and build upon existing standards and recommendations developed by, for example, UN/CEFACT, WCO and ISO and are intended for use primarily by those who would embark on the establishment of a Single Window system henceforth.

20 The Committee discussed various aspects of the proposed guidelines and agreed that the Organization should not duplicate the work being done in other organizations, such as UN/CEFACT, WCO, ISO or APEC, in relation to the Single Window but should develop guidelines solely for the maritime area, building upon existing international standards, recommendations and guidelines. A correspondence group was established to progress the issue intersessionally.

## **FORMALITIES CONNECTED WITH THE ARRIVAL, STAY AND DEPARTURE OF PERSONS**

### **Guidelines on the allocation of responsibilities to seek the successful resolution of stowaway cases (resolution A.871(20))**

21 The Committee recalled that FAL 34 noted that a review of the Guidelines on the allocation of responsibilities to seek the successful resolution of stowaway cases (the Guidelines), adopted by resolution A.871(20), clearly showed that these needed review in the light of developments since its adoption. As a result, the Committee agreed that resolution A.871(20) should be reviewed and updated during FAL 35 and invited submissions to this end. However, once more the Committee

noted that there had been no submissions in this respect and that there was a need to make progress on this issue. Accordingly, the Committee instructed the Secretariat to prepare a relevant proposal for consideration by FAL 36, in case no submissions to this end reach the Organization by the first deadline for the submission of documents for FAL 36.

22 The Committee also noted that at present two regimes appeared to coexist in relation to stowaways. The first one was established by resolution A.871(20), which was adopted in November 1997, and the other had been introduced through the provisions which had been included in the Convention in relation to stowaways through the 2002 amendments to the Annex to the Convention which entered into force on 1 May 2003.

23 As a result the coexistence of the two regimes had raised a number of questions, for example, as to what applies or what is the position of Member States which are Contracting Governments *vis-à-vis* resolution A.871(20).

24 Accordingly, pending the revision of the Guidelines, the Committee invited the Assembly to decide that resolution A.871(20) should be followed only by:

- .1 those Member States which are not Contracting Governments;
- .2 those Member States which are Contracting Governments and have notified, in accordance with article VIII(1), the Secretary-General, in relation to the Standards specified in section 4 on Stowaways of the Annex to the Convention, that they find it impracticable to comply with the aforesaid Standards or of differences between their own practice and the said Standards;
- .3 those Member States which are Contracting Governments which have not yet notified, in accordance with article VIII(3), the Secretary-General that they have brought their formalities, documentary requirements and procedures into accord in so far as practicable with the Recommended Practices specified in section 4 of the Annex to the Convention.

25 The Committee agreed that the revision of the Guidelines should be done in cooperation with the MSC and, in order to avoid further uncertainties and so as to provide guidance equivalent to that provided through the 2002 amendments to the Annex to the Convention, it was necessary to find a way to promulgate and make available the revised Guidelines before A 27, which was expected to take place in the autumn of 2011. To this end, the Committee agreed, taking into account the approach taken in relation to the revision of the Guidelines for the prevention and suppression of the smuggling of drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals on ships adopted by resolution A.872(20), to prepare and submit for consideration and adoption by A 26 an Assembly resolution on the revision of the Guidelines through which A 26 would, *inter alia*, authorize the Committee and MSC to adopt jointly the required amendments to the Guidelines (or to adopt a new version of the Guidelines, if necessary) and would require the two Committees to report accordingly to A 27 on the actions taken.

26 In this respect, the Committee approved the draft Assembly resolution on Revision of the Guidelines on the allocation of responsibilities to seek the successful resolution of stowaway cases (resolution A.871(20)), for submission to A 26 for adoption.

### **IMO Stowaway Focal Point**

27 The Committee recalled that FAL 34 requested the Secretary-General to establish an IMO Stowaway Focal Point on a trial experimental basis, to the extent existing resources allow, within the Secretariat. In view of the limited results of the trial and as the number of stowaway incident reports to the Organization for 2007 are higher than those for 2006, the Committee requested the Secretariat to continue the trial IMO Stowaway Focal Point and to report to FAL 36 on the experience gained with a view to deciding whether the practice should be continued or whether any further action is needed.

### **Administrative procedures for disembarking persons rescued at sea**

28 Following a proposal by an intersessional correspondence group on Administrative Procedures for disembarking persons rescued at sea and recalling the work done by the MSC in this respect, including the entry into force on 1 July 2006 of relevant amendments to the 1974 SOLAS and 1979 SAR Conventions; the Committee considered a draft FAL circular on such administrative procedures prepared by the group.

29 During the first consideration of the issue in plenary, the majority of the delegations who spoke supported the development of the circular in principle and proposed several amendments, in particular to the list of States and authorities that should cooperate in order to resolve the incidents. As a result the Committee established a working group and instructed it to prepare the draft of a relevant FAL circular.

30 The Committee also agreed that its involvement with issues in relation to persons rescued at sea should be limited to those matters which fall either within the area of its competency or the scope of the Convention which could be broadly summarized as issues relating to the arrival and disembarkation of such persons. The Committee also agreed to invite the MSC to note this decision and to consult with the Committee when discussing matters relating to the disembarkation of persons rescued at sea.

31 The extensive discussions which took place when considering the report of the aforesaid working group are summarized in paragraphs 6.52 to 6.59 of the report of the Committee and the statements made are set out in annexes 4 to 6 thereto. As a result of the debate, the Committee authorized the Secretariat to issue, taking into account the related decisions, a FAL.3 circular on Principles relating to administrative procedures for disembarking persons rescued at sea. The Secretariat, on the basis of the instructions of the Committee, subsequently issued it as FAL.3/Circ.194.

32 The Committee also decided to invite the MSC and its Sub-Committees to take the aforesaid circular into consideration in their ongoing work; and instructed the Secretariat to forward the circular to the UNHCR for its information.

33 The delegations of Australia and Malta reserved their positions on the decisions of the Committee and on the issue of the aforesaid circular.

### **SECURING AND FACILITATING INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

34 The Committee was advised in detail of the status of the WCO initiative on the Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) concept presently being rolled out in various countries, as well as the SAFE Framework of Standards adopted by the WCO Council in June 2007, aimed at

balancing increased security requirements with facilitation for compliant traders and, in particular, the benefits to be obtained from the AEO status which would lead to faster processing of goods by Customs and would ensure that those obtaining such status see a benefit to their investment in good security systems and practices.

35 The Committee was also advised of the latest developments at MSC in relation to the enhancement of security of ships other than those already covered by SOLAS chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code; port facility security audits; development of model legislation on maritime security; and the review of the recommendations and guidance on issues relating to piracy and armed robbery against ships.

#### **SHIP/PORT INTERFACE**

36 The Committee was apprised of the latest developments in the trial mechanism within the IMO Secretariat for the resolution of difficulties in the carriage of IMDG Code class 7 radioactive materials and requested the Secretariat to continue to cooperate with relevant agencies and organizations on issues surrounding the delays and denials of shipments of IMDG Code classified cargoes and, in particular, of IMDG Code class 7 radioactive materials, including those in packaged form used in medical or public health applications and to report accordingly to FAL 36.

37 In addition, the Committee agreed to request the Secretary-General to continue the trials of the aforesaid mechanism and instructed the Secretariat to report the results of the experience gained to FAL 36 with a view to enabling the Committee to determine the actions to be taken.

#### **TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AND ASSISTANCE**

##### **Delivery of technical co-operation activities**

38 The Committee noted that under the ITCF during 2008 one national seminar on facilitation issues had been held in Limbé, Cameroon, with a total of some 103 participants involved and that the regional seminar planned for Fiji would be held in 2009 as its format and contents were being recast to include maritime security-related issues as well as matters concerning the 1988 and 2005 SUA treaties. In 2009, three national seminars were scheduled to be held in Gambia, Ghana and Guinea and three regional seminars in Guatemala, Viet Nam and a country to be agreed for ROCRAM countries.

##### **Enhancement of technical co-operation activities**

39 The Committee also expressed the view that it was important to continue these technical cooperation activities in relation to facilitation aspects in order to assist in fulfilling the Role, mission, and strategic direction and work of the Committee, as adopted by FAL 32, which, *inter alia*, seeks to promote wider acceptance of the Convention and adoption of measures contained therein, to assist the Committee's effort and work towards the universal implementation of measures to facilitate international maritime traffic.

40 In this respect the Committee recalled, in particular, that among its strategic directions and work it should:

- identify possible technical assistance measures to facilitate international maritime traffic in developing countries; and

- identify possible technical assistance measures to expand information technology and e-business in the area of maritime traffic, particularly in developing countries,

and invited Member States and international organizations to provide proposals on possible actions which might be pursued in co-operation with the Technical Co-operation Committee (TCC).

### **Thematic priorities: the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme (ITCP) covering the 2010-2011 biennium**

41 The Committee, taking into account the provisions of resolution A.1006(25) on The Linkage between the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme and the Millennium Development Goals, reviewed and agreed the thematic priorities for the facilitation of international maritime traffic for the 2010-2011 biennium, and forwarded them to the TCC for its consideration with a view to inclusion in the ITCP for the 2010-2011 biennium.

### **RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

42 The Committee in accordance with the request of C 100 considered the applications for consultative status from:

- .1 the World Shipping Council (WSC); and
- .2 International Association of Airport and Seaport Police (IAASP);

and being satisfied with the information provided, decided to recommend to the Council that consultative status be granted to WSC and IAASP. This will be considered under agenda item 18(d).

### **REVIEW OF THE COMMITTEE'S GUIDELINES**

43 The Committee, noting that MSC 83, having considered the recommendations of the 2007 Chairmen's meeting, agreed, and MEPC 57 subsequently concurred, to further amendments to the MSC/MEPC Guidelines on the organization and method of work, considered these and, with a view to continuing the harmonization of its Guidelines on the organization and method of work (the FAL Guidelines) with those of MSC and MEPC, adopted amendments to the FAL Guidelines. Subsequently the Secretariat has issued these as FAL.3/Circ.195.

### **WORK PROGRAMME**

#### **Proposals for meeting weeks for the biennium 2010-2011**

44 The Committee, with a view to enabling the Secretary-General to prepare relevant budgetary proposals for the biennium 2010-2011 for consideration by the twenty-sixth regular session of the Assembly, and taking into account that, in accordance with Article 50 of the IMO Convention and rule 2(a) of its Rules of Procedure, it shall meet in regular session at least once a year, proposed one meeting week during 2010 and one meeting week during 2011.

#### **Role, mission, strategic direction and work of the Committee**

45 The Committee recalled that FAL 32, in July 2005, approved the Role, mission, strategic direction and work of the Committee and agreed that the "Strategic Direction" of the Committee



should be consistent with the “Strategic Direction” of the Organization, as contained in resolution A.944(23) on Strategic Plan for the Organization (for the six-year period 2004 to 2010) which was adopted in November 2003.

46 The Committee recognized that, although the Assembly has revised the Strategic Plan for the Organization twice since FAL 32, in November 2005 and 2007, it has not carried out any review of the Role, mission, strategic direction and work of the Committee so to ensure that it is consistent with the Strategic Plan for the Organization which is in effect.

47 With a view to addressing the anomalies which have transpired, the Committee agreed that:

- .1 the “Strategic Direction” of the Committee as set out in the Role, mission, strategic direction and work of the Committee should be, at all times, consistent with the “Strategic Direction” of the Organization as set out in the Strategic Plan for the Organization which is in effect; and
- .2 at its first session after each regular session of the Assembly it would be reviewing the “Strategic Direction” of the Committee as set out in the Role, mission, strategic direction and work of the Committee with a view to ensuring that these are consistent with the “Strategic Direction” of the Organization as set out in the Strategic Plan for the Organization which would be in effect.

48 In addition, the Committee recognized that by its next session in 2010, five years would have lapsed since the time it approved the current Role, mission, strategic direction and work of the Committee and considered that the time has come for its review and updating, especially in view of the institutionalization of the Committee and the expectations henceforth.

49 As a result, the Committee also agreed that, at its next session, it would carry out, in addition to the review which stems from paragraph 47, a comprehensive review of the Role, mission, strategic direction and work of the Committee with a view to ensuring that it adequately responds to current and emerging needs in terms of facilitation of maritime traffic and in relation to the enhancement of maritime security.

50 With a view to progressing this work, the Committee instructed the Secretariat, in co-operation with the Chairman, to draft proposals which may form the basis of the discussions.

#### **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2010**

51 The Committee, in accordance with its Rules of Procedure, unanimously elected Mr. Charles Abela (Malta) to the post of Chairman for 2010 and elected Mr. Eildert Broekema (Netherlands) to the post of Vice-Chairman for 2009 and 2010.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **Special event**

52 To mark the first session of the Committee following its institutionalization under the IMO Convention, the Committee held a special event entitled “The FAL Committee – Future Challenges” on 12 January 2009.

53 The speakers at the event were the Secretary-General, the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. P. Hinchliffe (ICS) and Mr. J. Bainbridge (ITF). Their presentations have been issued under cover of document FAL 35/INF.9.

### **United States Coast Guard Directive in regard to shore leave and other issues**

54 The Committee noted with interest the contents of a directive issued by the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard, on 22 October 2008, to all units of the United States Coast Guard in relation to shore leave and access to welfare and other organizations for seafarers on ships visiting United States ports. In particular the directive addressed issues where it had been reported that some port terminals and other regulated facilities under the ISPS Code in the United States had in some cases refused to grant access to seafarers holding properly issued visas for the purposes of shore leave, crew change, etc.; and also similarly refused access to ships on occasion for seafarers welfare and union representatives. The directive pointed out that the denial of such access ran counter to the intent of the United States Regulations.

55 The Committee expressed the view that while security considerations are of vital importance and the associated issues are complex involving many different agencies, such considerations should not be used as an excuse to deny seafarers the equally vital shore leave and their access to welfare organizations. The Committee reiterated that there is a fine balance to strike between security and the facilitation of maritime trade.

### **INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE FACILITATION COMMITTEE**

56 The Council, at its twenty-eighth session (23 to 26 May 1972), adopted on 24 May 1972 resolution C.54(XXVIII) on the Constitution of a Facilitation Committee, through which the Facilitation Committee was established as a subsidiary body of the Council under Rule 22 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council. Following the entry into force on 7 December 2008 of the 1991 amendments to the IMO Convention on the institutionalization of the Facilitation Committee, the Committee exists as an institutionalized organ of the Organization, under Article 11 of the IMO Convention.

### **Action requested of the Council**

57 The Council is invited to:

- .1 consider the report of the thirty-fifth session of the Facilitation Committee and transmit it with its comments and recommendations to the Assembly, in accordance with Article 21(b) of the IMO Convention (paragraph 1);
- .2 note the adoption of the Committee's Rules of Procedure (paragraph 4);
- .3 note the adoption of amendments to the FAL Convention regarding the arrival, stay and departure of ships; contents and purpose of documents; arrival and departure of persons; requirements and procedures; measures to facilitate clearance of cargo, passengers, crew and baggage; and facilitation for ships engaged on cruises and for cruise passengers, which are expected to enter into force on 15 May 2010 (paragraphs 5 and 6);

- .4 note the actions taken in relation to the review of Standards and Recommended Practices of the Convention to which differences had been registered by Contracting Governments (paragraphs 8 to 11);
- .5 note the decision of the Committee to initiate a comprehensive revision of the Convention with a view to ensuring that it adequately addresses the present and emerging needs of the shipping industry as well as for modernization of its provisions taking into account recent relevant developments (paragraphs 12 to 15);
- .6 note the progress made in relation to the development of an explanatory manual to the FAL Convention (paragraph 16);
- .7 note the progress made in relation to the transmission, by electronic means, of information relating to the clearance of ships; and on the revision of the IMO Compendium on facilitation and electronic business (paragraph 17);
- .8 note the approval, by the Committee, of a draft resolution on Revision of the Guidelines on the allocation of responsibilities to seek the successful resolution of stowaway cases (resolution A.871(20)), for submission to the twenty-sixth regular session of the Assembly for adoption (paragraphs 21 to 26);
- .9 note that the Committee has requested the Secretariat to continue the IMO Stowaway Focal Point trial period (paragraph 27);
- .10 note the decisions of the Committee concerning the scope of issues to be considered in connection with the disembarking of persons rescued at sea (paragraph 30) and the issue of a relevant FAL.3 circular on Administrative procedures (paragraphs 28 to 33);
- .11 note the action taken in relation to denial of IMDG Code class 7 radioactive materials, including those in packaged form used in medical or public health applications (paragraph 36);
- .12 note that the Committee has requested the Secretariat to continue the trial mechanism for the resolution of difficulties in the carriage of IMDG Code class 7 radioactive materials (paragraph 37);
- .13 note the action taken by the Committee on issues relating to delivery of technical assistance in the field of facilitation of international maritime traffic (paragraph 38);
- .14 note the thematic priorities for the facilitation of international maritime traffic, which have been proposed for inclusion in the ITCP for the 2010-2011 biennium (paragraph 41);
- .15 note the adoption of amendments to the Committee's Guidelines on organization and method of work to harmonize them as much as possible with those of the MSC and MEPC (paragraph 43);
- .16 note the recommendation that two meeting weeks should be allocated for sessions of the Committee during the biennium 2010-2011 (paragraph 44);

- .17 note the actions taken in relation to the revision of the role, mission, strategic direction and work of the Committee and the arrangements made to ensure that they are and remain consistent with the Strategic Plan for the Organization (paragraph 49); and
  - .18 welcome the institutionalization of the Facilitation Committee (paragraph 56).
-