

COUNCIL  
118th session  
Agenda item 9

C 118/9  
20 March 2017  
Original: ENGLISH

## CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE

### Note by the Secretary-General

#### SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This document reports on the outcome of the ninety-seventh session of the Maritime Safety Committee
<i>Strategic directions:</i>	1.1, 1.3, 2, 3.4, 3.5, 4, 5.1 to 5.4, 6.1, 6.2, 7.1, 8, 10 and 12.1 to 12.3
<i>High-level actions:</i>	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.3.4, 2.0.1 to 2.0.3, 3.4.1, 3.5.1, 4.0.1, 4.0.2, 4.0.3, 4.0.5, 5.1.1 to 5.4.1, 6.1.1, 6.2.1, 7.1.2, 8.0.2, 8.0.3, 10.0.1 and 12.1.1 to 12.3.1
<i>Outputs:</i>	1.1.1.1, 1.1.2.1 to 1.1.2.3, 1.3.4.1, 2.0.1.1, 2.0.2.1, 2.0.3.1 to 2.0.3.4, 4.0.1.3, 4.0.2.1, 4.0.3.1, 4.0.5.1, 5.1.1.1 to 6.1.1.1, 6.2.1.1, 6.2.1.2, 7.1.2.3, 8.0.2.1, 8.0.3.1, 10.0.1.1, 10.0.1.2 and 12.1.1.1 to 12.3.1.1
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 25
<i>Related documents:</i>	MSC 97/22 and Add.1

### Introduction

1 The report of the ninety-seventh session of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 97/22 and Add.1) is submitted to the 118th session of the Council in accordance with the provisions of Article 29 of the IMO Convention.

2 The ninety-seventh session of the Maritime Safety Committee was held from 21 to 25 November 2016, chaired by Mr. Brad Groves (Australia). The Vice-Chair, Mr. Juan Carlos Cubisino (Argentina), was also present. It was attended by 118 Member States, 2 Associate Members, 2 United Nations system organizations, 5 intergovernmental organizations and 43 non-governmental organizations.

3 Decisions of the Committee of interest to the Council are summarized in the ensuing paragraphs.

**Adoption of amendments to mandatory instruments**

- 4 The Committee considered and adopted (MSC 97/22, paragraphs 3.76 to 3.92):
- .1 by resolution MSC.409(97), *Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974*, as amended (chapters II-1, II-2 and XI-1);
  - .2 by resolution MSC.410(97), *Amendments to the International Code for Fire Safety Systems (FSS Code)*;
  - .3 by resolution MSC.411(97), *Amendments to the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk (IGC Code)*;
  - .4 by 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)*;
  - .5 by 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);
  - .6 by 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);
  - .7 by resolution MSC.416(97), *Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978*, as amended; and
  - .8 by resolution MSC.417(97), *Amendments to Part A of the Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) Code*.

5 The above amendments to the 1974 SOLAS Convention, the FSS Code, the IGC Code and the 2008 IS Code are expected to enter into force on 1 January 2020 upon their deemed acceptance on 1 July 2019. The amendments to the 2011 ESP Code, the 1978 STCW Convention and the STCW Code are expected to enter into force on 1 July 2018 upon their deemed acceptance on 1 January 2018.

**Adoption of amendments to relevant non-mandatory instruments**

- 6 The Committee adopted (MSC 97/22, paragraphs 3.88, 3.89, 3.94 and 3.95):
- .1 by resolution MSC.415(97), *Amendments to Part B of the International Code on Intact Stability, 2008 (2008 IS Code)*, which will take effect on 1 January 2020; and
  - .2 *Amendments to part B of the STCW Code*, for circulation by means of STCW.6/Circ.12, and decided that the amendments to part B of the STCW Code would become effective on the date of entry into force of amendments to the STCW Convention and part A of the STCW Code, namely 1 July 2018.

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## **Measures to enhance maritime security**

7 The Committee considered measures to enhance maritime security (MSC 97/22, section 4) and, in particular, requested the Secretariat to develop and implement a data transfer mechanism for the Maritime Security module of GISIS and to submit to the Committee for approval, before the mechanism is made available for use, any procedures to be followed or conditions relating to the use of such a mechanism (MSC 97/22, paragraph 4.8).

## **Goal-based new ship construction standards**

8 The Committee considered matters related to goal-based new ship construction standards (MSC 97/22, section 5), in particular on the implementation of the GBS verification scheme.

## **Mandatory instrument and/or provisions addressing safety standards for the carriage of more than 12 industrial personnel on board vessels engaged on international voyages**

9 The Committee progressed on the safety standards for the carriage of more than 12 industrial personnel on board vessels engaged on international voyages (MSC 97/22, section 6) and, in particular, adopted resolution MSC.418(97) on *Interim Recommendations on the safe carriage of more than 12 industrial personnel on board vessels engaged on international voyages* (MSC 97/22, paragraph 6.22).

## **Reports of the sub-committees**

10 The Committee approved, in general, the reports of NCSR 3, SSE 3 and III 2 (remaining issues); III 3; and CCC 3 (urgent matters) (MSC 97/22, sections 7 to 10). Decisions on important issues emanating from these reports and related matters are provided in paragraphs 11 to 15 below.

## **Draft amendments to mandatory instruments**

11 The Committee approved the draft amendments to SOLAS regulations II-2/9.4.1.3, II-2/3.56 and II-2/20.2 and appendix (Certificates: Forms P, E and C) (MSC 97/22, paragraphs 8.6, 8.18, 10.5 and 21.2, respectively). The Committee also approved the draft amendments to the IGF Code, the 1994 and 2000 HSC Codes, the LSA Code and the IMSBC Code (MSC 97/22, paragraphs 3.100, 8.25, 8.34, 10.3 and 10.6, respectively). The Committee requested the Secretary-General to circulate these draft amendments in accordance with SOLAS article VIII, with a view to adoption at MSC 98.

## **Amendments to Assembly resolutions to be forwarded to A 30**

12 The Committee adopted resolution MSC.419(97) on *Amendments to the General Provisions on Ships' Routeing* (resolution A.572(14)), for submission to A 30 for confirmation (MSC 97/22, paragraph 7.2).

13 With regard to the draft *Guidelines for PSCOs on certification of seafarers, hours of rest and manning*, the Committee agreed that III 4 would incorporate the draft Guidelines, after approval by MSC 98, for incorporation, into the draft Assembly resolution on *Procedures for Port State Control*, as a replacement for the existing appendix 11 of the annex to resolution A.1052(27), to be considered by A 30 for adoption (MSC 97/22, paragraph 9.12).

14 Having concurred with MEPC 70, the Committee approved MSC-MEPC.5/Circ.12 on *Amendments to the Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification, 2015 for Ships Operating in Polar Waters*, taking into account that the amendments should be incorporated in the draft Assembly resolution on *the Survey Guidelines under the HSSC*, to be developed by III 4 and considered by A 30 for adoption (MSC 97/22, paragraph 9.23).

#### ***Adoption and approval of non-mandatory instruments***

15 The Committee adopted resolution MSC.420(97) on *Interim recommendations for carriage of liquefied hydrogen in bulk* (MSC 97/22, paragraph 10.2), and approved various non-mandatory instruments related to safety.

#### **Formal safety assessment, piracy and armed robbery against ships, and unsafe mixed migration at sea**

16 The Committee considered matters related to formal safety assessment; piracy and armed robbery against ships; and unsafe mixed migration at sea, and took relevant decisions (MSC 97/22, sections 13, 14 and 15, respectively).

#### **Application of the Committee's Guidelines**

17 With respect to the proposed revised Rules of Procedure of the MSC, the Committee, having noted that MEPC 70 had agreed to the revised Rules of Procedure of the MEPC, did not agree to the proposed revised Rules of Procedure of the MSC, with a view to finalization at MSC 98 (MSC 97/22, paragraph 18.11).

18 The Committee approved MSC-MEPC.1/Circ.5 on *Organization and method of work of the Maritime Safety Committee and the Marine Environment Protection Committee and their subsidiary bodies*, including the use of gender-neutral terms (MSC 97/22, paragraph 18.19).

#### **Work programme**

##### ***Endorsement of new outputs***

19 In accordance with the relevant provisions of the *Guidelines on the application of the Strategic Plan and the High-level Action Plan of the Organization* (resolution A.1099(29)), the Committee invited the Council to endorse, for inclusion in the current High-level Action Plan, the following new outputs agreed by the Committee (MSC 97/22, paragraph 19.26):

- .1 review the Model Agreement for the authorization of recognized organizations acting on behalf of the Administration;
- .2 review SOLAS chapter II-2 and associated codes to minimize the incidence and consequences of fires on ro-ro spaces and special category spaces of new and existing ro-ro passenger ships; and
- .3 develop new requirements for ventilation of survival craft.

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**Biennial status report of the Maritime Safety Committee**

20 The Committee invited the Council to note the Report on the status of outputs for the 2016-2017 biennium related to the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 97/22, paragraph 19.27 and annex 24).

**Post-biennial agenda of the Committee**

21 The Committee invited the Council to note the updated Post-biennial agenda of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 97/22, paragraph 19.28 and annex 25).

**Number of meeting-weeks for the coming biennium**

22 The Committee agreed that the number of meeting-weeks for the coming biennium would be 21 meeting-weeks of MSC and MEPC and their subsidiary bodies, for inclusion in the Secretary-General's relevant budget proposals for the biennium 2018-2019 (MSC 97/22, paragraph 19.33).

23 The Committee approved eight days for MSC 99 (May 2018), five days for MSC 100 (November 2018) and eight days for MSC 101 (June 2019), for inclusion in the Secretary-General's relevant budget proposals for the biennium 2018-2019 (MSC 97/22, paragraph 19.34).

**Intersessional meetings**

24 The Committee approved or confirmed, as appropriate, the following intersessional meetings and invited the Council to endorse these decisions (MSC 97/22, paragraph 19.35):

- .1 the twenty-seventh meeting of the E&T Group on the IMDG Code to be held in the second quarter of 2017;
- .2 the twenty-eighth meeting of the E&T Group on the IMDG Code to be held directly after CCC 4;
- .3 the twenty-fourth session of the ICAO/IMO Joint Working Group on Search and Rescue to take place in the second half of 2017; and
- .4 the thirteenth session of the Joint IMO/ITU Experts Group on Maritime Radiocommunication Matters to take place in 2017.

**Action requested of the Council**

25 The Council is invited to:

- .1 consider the report of the ninety-seventh session of the Maritime Safety Committee and, in accordance with Article 21(b) of the IMO Convention, transmit it, with its comments and recommendations, to the thirtieth session of the Assembly;
- .2 note the adoption by the Committee of amendments to the 1974 SOLAS Convention and mandatory codes and the 1978 STCW Convention and Code, and the approval/adoption of non-mandatory instruments (paragraphs 4 to 6 and 15);

- .3 note the decisions taken on issues related to maritime security and, in particular, the ongoing work related to the development of a data transfer mechanism for the Maritime Security GISIS module to facilitate communication of information to the Organization (paragraph 7);
- .4 note the decisions taken with regard to goal-based new ship construction standards, in particular on matters related to the implementation of the GBS verification scheme (paragraph 8);
- .5 note the actions taken on issues related to the carriage of more than 12 industrial personnel on board vessels engage on international voyages (paragraph 9);
- .6 note the decisions and actions taken in regard to the outcomes of sub-committees reporting to this session, in particular the amendments to the General Provisions on Ships' Routeing, which A 30 has been requested to confirm, and that III 4, which will meet after MSC 98, has been authorized to report the outcome of its work on matters that would require the adoption of draft Assembly resolutions directly to A 30 (paragraphs 10 to 15);
- .7 note the decisions taken for matters related to formal safety assessment (paragraph 16);
- .8 note the decisions taken in regard to piracy and armed robbery against ships (paragraph 16);
- .9 note the decisions taken in regard to unsafe mixed migration at sea (paragraph 16);
- .10 note the actions taken on issues related to the Rules of procedure of the Maritime Safety Committee and the Organization and method of work for the MSC and MEPC (paragraphs 17 and 18);
- .11 endorse the new outputs agreed at the session for inclusion in the High-level Action Plan and priorities for the 2016-2017 biennium (paragraph 19);
- .12 note the biennial status report of the Committee (paragraph 20);
- .13 note the post-biennial agenda of the Committee (paragraph 21);
- .14 note that the proposed number of meeting-weeks for the coming biennium will be 21 meeting-weeks, for inclusion in the Secretary-General's relevant budget proposals for the biennium 2018-2019 (paragraph 22);
- .15 note that the Committee approved eight days for MSC 99 (May 2018), five days for MSC 100 (November 2018) and eight days for MSC 101 (June 2019), for inclusion in the Secretary-General's relevant budget proposals for the biennium 2018-2019 (paragraph 23); and
- .16 endorse the intersessional meetings approved for 2017 (paragraph 24).