



COUNCIL
23rd extraordinary session
Agenda item 6

C/ES.23/6/1
15 September 2005
Original: ENGLISH

VOLUNTARY IMO MEMBER STATE AUDIT SCHEME

Outcome of MEPC 53

Note by the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This document reports on the outcome of MEPC 53 with respect to the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 10
<i>Related document:</i>	MEPC 53/24, paragraphs 12.1 to 12.10

Introduction

1 At its ninety-second session, the Council requested the MEPC to consider, from its own perspective, the report of the third session of the Joint MSC/MEPC/TCC Working Group on the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme (hereinafter referred to as the Audit Scheme) and to provide its comments to this session of the Council.

2 MEPC 53 considered the report of the third session of the Joint Group as well as the relevant outcomes of FSI 13, MSC 80, TCC 55 and C 94 and the outcome of its consideration of the issue is reported in the ensuing paragraphs.

Code for the implementation of IMO mandatory instruments

3 MEPC 53 concurred with the FSI Sub-Committee's decision concerning the finalization of the tables listing the obligations of Contracting Governments/Parties and the instruments made mandatory under IMO Conventions, noting that the Secretariat, in consultation with the correspondence group's co-ordinator, had completed the tables, as shown in annexes 1 to 5 of document MEPC 53/12/2.

4 MEPC 53, having noted the action taken by MSC 80, approved the draft Code for the implementation of mandatory IMO instruments and the associated draft Assembly resolution, as contained in annex 9 to document MSC 80/24/Add.1, for submission to the twenty-fourth session of the Assembly for adoption, incorporating the aforementioned tables listing the obligations of Contracting Governments/Parties and the instruments made mandatory under IMO Conventions.

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly asked to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

Framework for the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme

5 MEPC 53 endorsed the draft Framework for the Audit Scheme, as set out in annex 1 to the annex to document MEPC 53/12, noting that it had already been approved by MSC 80, TCC 55 and C 94.

Procedures for the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme

6 In considering, for endorsement, the draft Procedures for the Audit Scheme, MEPC 53 discussed a proposal by India (MEPC 53/12/3) that, under the section on “General information” of the draft Pre-audit questionnaire set out in appendix 2 of the draft Procedures, a new paragraph 2 be added, with the title “General questionnaire”, setting out the questions listed in paragraph 3 of document MEPC 53/12/3.

7 Based on the ensuing debate and acknowledging that the Pre-audit questionnaire had already been approved by MSC 80, TCC 55 and C 94, MEPC 53 agreed that, instead of modifying the questionnaire, the proposal by India should be taken fully into account when preparing the auditors’ training course material.

8 MEPC 53 endorsed the draft Procedures and the draft Assembly resolution for adoption of the draft Framework and Procedures, as set out in annex 3 to document MEPC 53/12, noting that it had already been approved by MSC 80, TCC 55 and C 94.

9 MEPC 53 noted that the Joint Group had addressed its terms of reference and completed its work, and invited the twenty-third extraordinary session of the Council to concur with the course of action taken by the Committee.

Action requested of the Council

10 The Council is invited to consider the outcome of MEPC 53 on the Audit Scheme and, in particular, to:

- .1 note that MEPC 53 had approved the draft Code for the implementation of mandatory IMO instruments and the associated draft Assembly resolution; and that it had also endorsed the draft Framework and Procedures for the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme along with the associated draft Assembly resolution (paragraphs 4, 5 and 8); and
- .2 concur with the recommendation that the Pre-audit questionnaire should not be modified, instead the proposal of India should be taken fully into account when preparing the auditors training course material (paragraphs 6 and 7).