

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Passenger ship safety

SOLAS regulation III/19 amendments to require musters of newly embarked passengers prior to or immediately upon departure were adopted. Recommended interim measures were approved for passenger ship companies.

Emergency training and rescue drills

Amendments to SOLAS regulation III/19 and to the International Code of Safety for High-Speed Craft (HSC Code), the Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units (MODU Code) and the Code of Safety for Dynamically Supported Craft (DSC Code) were adopted.

Piracy and armed robbery

A revised and comprehensive IMO strategy for implementing sustainable maritime security measures in West and Central Africa had been developed and was being implemented.

Interim guidelines on welfare of seafarers and their families

Interim Guidelines addressing welfare of seafarers and their families affected by Somalia-based piracy are forwarded to the ILO.

Long-range identification and tracking (LRIT)

Guidance was approved related to the establishment and testing of LRIT Data Centres (DCs) and the operation of the LRIT system.

Fishing Vessel Safety

Procedure for calculating the number of fishing vessels of each Contracting State to the 2012 Cape Town Agreement by the Depositary and the consolidated text of the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977, as modified by the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol relating thereto, as modified by the 2012 Cape Town Agreement, were approved.

Code for Recognized Organizations

SOLAS regulation XI-1/1 and MARPOL annexes I and II amendments were adopted to make mandatory the Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code). The RO Code was also adopted.

Energy-efficiency measures for ships

Technical and operational measures were further developed relating to energy-efficiency measures for ships, following the entry into force, on 1 January 2013, of the new chapter 4 of MARPOL Annex VI, which includes requirements mandating the Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI), for new ships, and the Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan (SEEMP), for all ships.

Ships' biofouling

Guidance was approved for evaluating the 2011 Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling.

Implementation of MARPOL Annex V

Amendments were adopted to the 2012 Guidelines for the implementation of MARPOL Annex V, to add references to E-waste generated on board.

Ship recycling

A correspondence group was re-established to finalize the development of threshold values, exemptions and bulk listings applicable to the materials to be listed in the Inventory of Hazardous Materials (IHM) and to prepare pertinent amendments to the 2011 Guidelines for the development of the IHM.

Ballast water management

A resolution was adopted on the application of regulation B-3 of the BWM Convention to ease and facilitate the smooth implementation of the Convention.

Draft Mandatory Polar Code

The environmental requirements were reviewed under the proposed draft mandatory International Code for ships operating in polar waters (Polar Code).

Underwater noise

Guidelines were approved for the reduction of underwater noise from commercial shipping to address adverse impacts on marine life.

Port reception facilities

Consolidated guidance was approved for port reception facility providers and users.

Chemical Pollution

A manual on Chemical Pollution was approved to address legal and administrative aspects of HNS incidents.

Mandatory audit scheme

Key resolutions and amendments were adopted relating to the Organization's mandatory audit scheme.

London Convention and Protocol

Marine geoengineering, including ocean fertilization, will be regulated under amendments to the 1996 Protocol to the international treaty which regulates the dumping of wastes and other matter at sea.

Guidance on Blue Cards

Guidance was approved for accepting Blue Cards or similar documentation from insurance companies to States Parties to a number of IMO treaties.

HNS 2010 correspondence group established to facilitate ratification of the treaty

HNS Correspondence Group was re-established with a view to facilitating a concerted effort to implement and coordinate the ratification, and entry into force, of the 2010 HNS Convention.

Focus on "IMO conventions: effective implementation" highlighted

The Protocol of 2002 to the Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea, 1974, entered into force on 23 April 2014; the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007, will enter into force on 14 April 2015.

Places of refuge

The issue of places of refuge for ships in distress was discussed at the Legal Committee.

MLC 2006 amendments

The adoption of the ILO Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) amendments relating to provision of financial security for abandonment, personal injury to and death of seafarers was welcomed.

Offshore exploration and exploitation activities

An intersessional consultative group stands ready to develop guidance on bilateral and regional agreements or arrangements related to the liability and compensation issues.
