



INTERNATIONAL SHIPS REGISTRY OF GUINEA-BISSAU

Technical Service Circular Nr. 02/ 2022, 04/05/2022

IMO Developments

Subject: “ IMO MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE, (MSC 105) - High Lights”

1. The 105th session of the IMO's Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) was held remotely from 20 to 29 April. A wide range of topics was on the agenda, including the safety of ships carrying industrial personnel, the safety of ships relating to the use of fuel oil, and the consideration of a regulatory framework for maritime autonomous surface ships. Requirements reflecting modern systems for maritime distress and safety communication were adopted and interim guidelines for the safety of ships using fuel cell power installations were approved. In addition, the Committee was updated on the impact on shipping and seafarers of the armed conflict in Ukraine to support affected seafarers and commercial ships and consider the implications of this situation for the implementation of the Organization's instruments.
2. The MSC 105th session **meeting highlights** included among others the following topics:
 - Adoption of amendments to modernize the requirements of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS).
 - Approval of draft SOLAS amendments to enhance the safety of ships relating to the use of oil fuel.
 - Approval of the draft new SOLAS Chapter XV and the draft new mandatory code for the carriage of industrial personnel (IP Code). The aim is to provide minimum safety standards for ships that carry industrial personnel, as well as for the personnel themselves, and address specific risks of maritime operations within the offshore sectors, such as personnel transfer operations. Such personnel may be engaged in the construction, maintenance, decommissioning, operation, or servicing of offshore facilities, such as wind farms, as well as offshore oil and gas installations.
 - Approval of interim guidelines for the safety of ships using fuel cell power installations.
 - Agreement on a roadmap for the development of a nonmandatory code for maritime autonomous surface ships.
3. **Blue safe maritime corridor in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov.** Following up on the extraordinary IMO Council meeting in March 2022, MSC 105 adopted a resolution on “Actions to facilitate the urgent evacuation of seafarers from the war zone area in and around the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov as a result of the Russian Federation aggression against Ukraine”. The resolution calls for humanitarian support to seafarers stranded in Ukrainian ports and their safe and expeditious evacuation.
4. **MSC 105th Session Participation.** The International Ships Registry of Guinea-Bissau was officially represented at the MSC 105th session deliberations focusing on issues of relevance for the efficient operation of the Registry.

Office of the General Ships Registrar



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