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CIRCULAR LETTER 13/2003
10 February 2003

COMMISSION ON PROMULGATION OF RADIO NAVIGATIONAL WARNINGS (CPRNW)
- 6TH MEETING, 13-15 MAY 2003
- MINUTES OF COMSAR7

Dear Hydrographer,

You may recall that the 6th CPRNW meeting, which was scheduled to be held in Canberra, Australia, in November 2002, had to be cancelled because too few members of the CPRNW were able to attend. It has now been decided that this meeting will be held at the IHB in Monaco from 13 to 15 May 2003. The new CPRNW Chairman, Mr. Peter DOHERTY (NIMA, USA), will invite all members of this Commission directly. Enclosed (Annex A) you will find the draft agenda for your information.

At the recent COMSAR 7 Meeting (13-17 January 2003, IMO, London) the IHO was represented by the CPRNW Chairman. In Annex B you will find the minutes of this meeting for your information.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

(original signed)

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President

Encl.: - Annex A: Draft Agenda for 6th CPRNW meeting (in English only)
- Annex B: Minutes of COMSAR 7 (in English only)

IHO Commission on Promulgation of
Radio Navigational Warnings
Sixth Meeting
Agenda item 1.5

PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE SIXTH MEETING

**Meeting to be held at the International Hydrographic Bureau,
4 Quai Antoine 1er, Monaco, commencing on Tuesday, 13 May 2003 at 0930**

- 1 Administrative**
 - .1 Introductions
 - .2 Welcome by IHB
 - .3 Working Arrangements
 - .4 Administrative Arrangements
 - .5 Adoption of the Agenda
- 2 Matters relating to the GMDSS Master Plan by IMO (if represented)**
- 3 Promulgation of Maritime Safety Information (MSI)**
 - .1 Results from 7th Session of the International Maritime Organization's Sub-Committee on Communications and Search and Rescue (to include amendments to the International SafetyNET Manual and the NAVAREA XIII arrangement)
 - .2 NAVAREA Assessments of Navigational Warnings Services by Coordinators
 - .3 Coastal Warnings
 - .1 Report of the NAVTEX Coordinating Panel (including proposed amendments to the NAVTEX Manual
 - .2 Provision by NAVTEX
 - .3 Provision by SafetyNET
 - .4 Review of the following documents for currency, etc.
 - .1 World Wide Navigational Warning Service (WWNWS) Guidance Document Review
 - .2 Terms of Reference for the CPRNW (IHO Circular Letter 37/1998, 24 August 1998)
 - .3 Implementation of the GMDSS (IHO Circular Letter 21/2000, 12 July 2000)
 - .5 Operational Lessons Learned for consideration as improvements to the WWNWS
 - .6 Meteorological Services by WMO
- 4 CPRNW Representation at Regional Hydrographic Conferences (IHO Circular Letter 21/2000, paragraph 2.2.1)**
- 6 Any Other Business**
- 7 Final Report**

**SUB-COMMITTEE ON RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS AND SEARCH AND RESCUE
(COMSAR)**

7th Session, IMO Headquarters, London, UK, 13-17 January 2003

The Seventh Session of COMSAR was held at IMO headquarters in London, UK under the chairmanship of Mr. Valery Bogdanov, Russian Federation. Mr. Peter Doherty, Chairman, CPRNW, represented the IHO at this session and chaired the International SafetyNET Coordination Panel meeting. The following is the result of that meeting.

The List of NAVAREA Coordinators was approved and member governments were invited to bring the list to the attention of the NAVAREA Coordinators.

The International NAVTEX Co-coordinating Panel presented a report addressing issues to prevent interference with broadcasts. The group suggested introducing standard abbreviations to shorten messages and encouraged administrations to transfer national language and national requirements data to national broadcasts.

The Working Group considered the draft amendments to the International SafetyNET Manual submitted by the Russian Federation (MSC 76/22/9) and noted after some discussion that the diagram of NAVAREA/METAREA on page 7, figure 3 in the International SafetyNET Manual is incorrect; specifically the boundary between NAVAREA XI and NAVAREA XIII is incorrectly shown in the south-western part of NAVAREA XIII. This error is also reflected in the current Inmarsat C MES software and in the coding of the current EGC receivers with the implication that the NAVAREA XIII messages are not received properly throughout NAVAREA XIII.

The Working Group agreed that the diagram should be replaced. The impact of this change upon the existing Inmarsat C equipment is such that only new Inmarsat C equipment, produced after (1 January 2005) should incorporate this change. Existing equipment should not have to be modified. Consequently, it further agreed that, contrary to current operational guidelines, the facility for addressing messages to temporary geographical areas noted in paragraph 4.5 of the International SafetyNET Manual may be exceptionally used by NAVAREA XIII in this specific area for navigational warnings whilst this problem exists, but no change to the International SafetyNET Manual will be necessary. The Working Group also agreed in order to make members' governments aware of this exception; an amendment shall be made to the cover sheet of MSC/Circ.1064 and accordingly, drafted that amendment for MSC 77 (Attachment 1).

Draft

AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL SAFETYNET MANUAL

1 The Sub-Committee on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue (COMSAR), at its seventh session (13 to 17 January 2003), as instructed by MSC 76 further reviewed MSC/Circ.1064 and the guidance on the operation of the International SafetyNET Services, as amended, and agreed that in addition to the adopted amendments given in MSC/Circ.1064, the following guidance should also be brought to the attention of Member Governments:

"Exceptionally in NAVAREA XIII, Administrations should be aware that owing to certain features of the existing Inmarsat-C receivers within this area, the facility for addressing messages to temporary geographic areas as noted in paragraph 4.5 of the Manual may be used for promulgation of navigational warnings".

2 The Maritime Safety Committee, [at its seventy-seventh session (28 May to 6 June 2003)], adopted the aforementioned additional guidance and invited Member Governments to bring it to the attention of all concerned.

3 This circular complements MSC/Circ.1064.