



IHB File No.S3/3055

**CIRCULAR LETTER 101/2008
09 December 2008**

85th SESSION OF THE IMO MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE

References: a) CL 39/2008 dated 25 April (Outcome of COMSAR 12)
b) CL 58/2008 dated 8 July (Outcome of NAV54)

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The 85th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) was held at the IMO Headquarters Building in London from 26 November to 5 December 2008. The President and PAH represented the IHO.

2 The reports of COMSAR12 (COMSAR12/15) and NAV 54 (NAV54/25), both of which are available from the IHO web site, as reported at the references were considered during the meeting. In this context MSC 85 took the following actions:

.1 Approved the amendments to resolution A.705(17) on the Promulgation of Maritime Safety Information;

.2 Approved the amendments to resolution A.706(17) on the IMO/IHO World-Wide Navigational Warning Service;

.3 Endorsed the issue of the COMSAR circular on the list of NAVAREA Co-ordinators;

.4 Adopted 14 new or amended Routeing Measures;

.5 Adopted the proposed amendments to the General Provisions on Ships' Routeing, subject to confirmation by the Assembly;

.6 Approved the amendments to SOLAS regulation V/19 with respect to a mandatory carriage requirement for ECDIS, with a view to adoption at the 86th Session in May 2009. The dates for the phased implementation, as prepared by NAV54 were approved;

.7 Approved the SN Circular on "Transitioning from paper chart to electronic chart display and information systems (ECDIS) navigation";

.8 Approved the strategy for the development and implementation of e-navigation;

.9 Approved the framework for the implementation process for the e-navigation strategy along with the time frame for implementation of the strategy, requesting other international organizations to participate in the implementation of e-navigation;

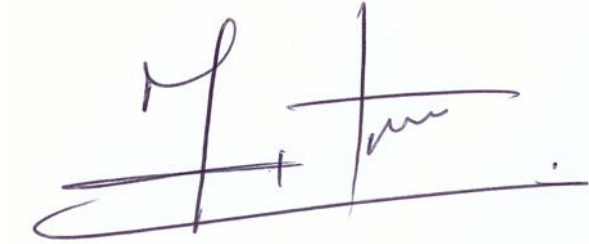
.10 Endorsed the NAV Sub-Committee's decision that the Chairman along with the Secretaries of the COMSAR, NAV and STW Sub-Committees should jointly develop a co-ordinated approach to implement the e-navigation strategy; and

.11 Approved the draft SN Circular detailing an amendment to SN/Circ.243 on Guidelines for the presentation of navigational-related symbols, terms and abbreviations relating to a new symbol for the presentation of an AIS Search and Rescue Transmitter (AIS-SART).

3 The full report of MSC 85 (MSC85/26), when issued by IMO, will be available from the IHO web site.

On behalf of the Directing Committee

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'A. Maratos', written over a light blue horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President