



IHB File No.S3/3055

**CIRCULAR LETTER 34/2010
25 May 2010**

**87th SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION's (IMO)
MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE (MSC87)**

References: a) IHB CL 57/2009 dated 10 August 2009(Outcome of NAV55)
b) IHB CL 27/2010 dated 29 March 2010 (Outcome of COMSAR 14)

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The 87th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC87) was held at the IMO Headquarters in London from 12 to 21 May 2010. Vice Admiral Aexandros Maratos and Mr Stephen Shipman represented the IHO. The reports of NAV55 (NAV55/21) and COMSAR14 (COMSAR14/17 - urgent items only), both of which are available from the IHO web site, were considered during the meeting. The remaining aspects of the report of COMSAR 14 will be considered at MSC88 in late 2010.

2 After consideration of these reports MSC87 took the following actions that have relevance to the IHO:

- .1 Approved five new, and two revised, Traffic Separation Schemes (TSS);
- .2 Approved one new Area To Be Avoided (ABTA);
- .3 Approved amendments to two mandatory Ship Reporting Systems;
- .4 Approved the revised text of the International SafetyNET Manual which will come into force on 1 January 2012.
- .5 Adopted the MSC resolution on "Guideline on operational procedures for the promulgation of maritime safety information concerning acts of piracy and piracy counter-measure operations";
- .6 Adopted the MSC resolution on the revised performance standards for enhanced group call (EGC) equipment, amending resolution A.664(16); and
- .7 Endorsed the issue of COMSAR Circular 51 on the list of NAVAREA Co-ordinators;

3 The IHO with the co-sponsorship of Brazil, France and Norway submitted document MSC87/25/3 requesting the issue of an MSC Circular on IHO membership. The issue of the draft Circular included in the submitted document received widespread support and was approved. The Islamic Republic of Iran proposed that the Circular should be sent, under cover of a letter from the Secretary-General, directly to those IMO Member States who are not

members of the IHO. The representative of the African Union offered to assist in seeking extended membership of IHO within Africa.

4 The full report of MSC 87 (MSC87/26) will be posted on the IHO web site as soon as it is released by the IMO. The 88th session of the MSC will be held at IMO Headquarters in London from 24 November to 3 December 2010.

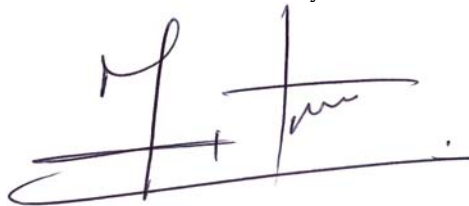
Meetings held in the margins of MSC87

5 A meeting to discuss progress with the Western Indian Ocean Marine Highway was attended by the Project Manager (South Africa) and representatives of France, South Africa, the United Kingdom, IHO and the IMO. There was general agreement that the Project Manager should seek approval to make a presentation during the forthcoming meeting of the NAV Sub-Committee (26 – 30 July 2010) in order to inform a wider audience on the achievements made.

6 A meeting was held with the Chairman of the IMO e-navigation Working Group and the Secretary-General of The International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) to discuss how to take forward, in the most efficient manner, work on a Universal Data Model to be used within e-navigation, There was agreement that the IHO should make a presentation on S-100 during the forthcoming NAV56 Sub-Committee meeting and that during discussion at NAV56 consideration would be given to holding a seminar on the matter later in 2010 which could be hosted by the IHB in Monaco.

7 An informal meeting was held with representatives of the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) during which various issues related to coverage, production, quality etc of ENCs were discussed.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Maratos', written over a horizontal line.

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President