



IHB File No. S3/3055

**CIRCULAR LETTER 34/2011
30 May 2011**

**89th SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION's (IMO)
MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE (MSC89)**

Reference: IHB CL 28/2011 dated 28 March (Outcome of COMSAR15)

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The 89th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC89) was held at the IMO Headquarters in London from 11 - 20 May 2011. The President and PAH represented the IHO.

Report of COMSAR15

2 The report of COMSAR15 (COMSAR15/16 – urgent items only), which is available on the IHO web site, was considered during the meeting. MSC89 took the following actions that have relevance to the IHO:

- .1 Approved the draft revised NAVTEX Manual;
- .2 Approved the issue of the revised COMSAR Circular on NAVAREA Co-ordinators' operational contact information;
- .3 Authorised the IMO Secretariat to issue further revisions to the above COMSAR Circular upon receipt of updated information from a NAVAREA Co-ordinator or the IHO.
- .4 Agreed the draft text of the Assembly Resolution on a World-Wide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service which will now go to the 27th session of the IMO Assembly in November 2011 for adoption.

3 The MSC, under agenda item 14 on Technical Assistance, noted document MSC89/INF.10 submitted by the IHO which reported on the ongoing cooperation between the IMO, IHO and other international organizations on Technical Assistance and Capacity Building matters.

Operating anomalies identified within ECDIS

4 The MSC considered document MSC89/24/2 submitted by the IHO reporting on the outcome of a Workshop held at the IHB in Monaco on 15-16 February 2011 and document MSC89/24/3 submitted by Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, Norway, the UK, the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and the International Federation of Shipmasters' Associations (IFSMA), commenting on the IHO submission. The MSC noted the information provided and the actions requested and agreed that this matter should be considered by the 57th session of the Safety of Navigation Sub-Committee (NAV57) which will be held at the IMO Headquarters in London from 6-10 June 2011.

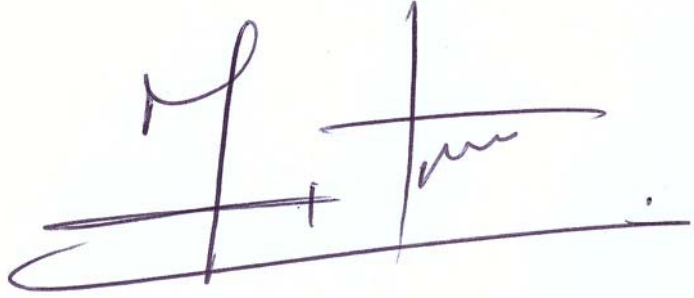
Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the MSC for 2012

5 The current Chair of MSC, Mr Neil Ferrer of the Philippines, announced that he would not be available for re-election for 2012. The MSC elected Captain Christian Breinholt of Denmark as Chair and Captain M Segar of Singapore as Vice-Chair for 2012.

MSC89 Report and MSC90 dates

6 The full report of MSC 89 (MSC89/25) will be posted on the IHO web site as soon as it is released by the IMO. The 90th session of the MSC is currently scheduled to be held at IMO Headquarters in London from 16 – 25 May 2012.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'A. Maratos', written over a light blue background. The signature is stylized with a large initial 'A' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President