

Outcomes of MSC 90

Submitted by IHB

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document provides details of the outcomes of MSC 90, which are relevant to WWNWS-SC

Action to be taken: Paragraph 2.

Related documents: MSC 90/28 dated 31 May 2012

1. MSC 90 was held at IMO Headquarters in London 16 – 25 May 2012. The following items are of relevance to WWNWS-SC:

Report of COMSAR 16

.1 MSC 90 took action on the urgent matters emanating from COMSAR 16, as reported at the reference, in particular:

.1 Approved of the withdrawal of COMSAR/Circ.36 concerning the broadcast of warnings for tsunamis and other natural disasters with effect from 1 January 2013 following the revision of the WWNWS documentation.

.2 Approved the draft revision of Annex 8 to MSC/Circ.1382/Rev.1 on the questionnaire on shore-based facilities for the global distress and safety system (GMDSS) and instructed its inclusion in the revised draft MSC circular set out in Annex 5 of COMSAR 15/16.

.3 Approved the draft revised Work Plan on the “Review and modernisation of the GMDSS” and agreed to include it in the 2012-2013 biennial agenda of the COMSAR, NAVC and STW Sub-Committees and provisional agendas for COMSAR 17 and STW 44 with a target completion year of 2017. COMSAR was assigned as the co-ordinating organ.

Development of an e-Navigation Strategy Implementation Plan

.2 MSC 90 noted that COMSAR, in relation to the development of an e-navigation strategy and the gap analysis, had endorsed the final draft list of gaps relevant to radiocommunications and search and rescue and instructed that the list be forwarded to STW 38 and NAV 58 for final consideration.

.3 It was also agreed, for the present, that no further action was required until future uses of the frequency band of 495-505 kHz were identified for e-navigation.

Operating anomalies identified within ECDIS

.4 MSC 90 considered document MSC 90/10/1 submitted by the IHO reporting on the activities undertaken by the IHO since MSC 89, with respect to “Operating anomalies identified within ECDIS” and documents MSC 90/10/2 and MSC 90/10/3 submitted by the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), Australia, and the UK commenting on the IHO submission. The MSC noted the discussions at COMSAR 16 and that STW 43 had considered the matter and updated the ECDIS model training course syllabus.

.5 MSC 90 recognised that there was a need to raise the awareness of mariners to the operating anomalies of ECDIS and the advice of the possible need to continue to carry paper charts in some cases. MSC 90:

.1 invited the IHO to re-promulgate the IHO ECDIS/ENC Data Portrayal and Performance check data set to ensure that all appropriate ECDIS installations are checked including all known manufacturers’ ECDIS models;

.2 encourage all appropriate agencies and organisations to help identify the extent and severity of ECDIS anomalies as a matter of urgency so that the impact on the safety of navigation can be established;

.3 invited ECDIS manufacturers to make information regarding anomalies widely available to reduce the risk;

.4 agreed that, at present, there was no immediate need to establish a standing body, recognising that the IHO, in co-operation with all interested entities and the IMO, was already actively involved in this activity.

2. The Sub-Committee is invited to note the information provided and take action as appropriate.