

MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE
99th session
Agenda item 21

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

IMO Member State audit scheme

Submitted by WMO

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document provides additional guidance in the context of resolution A.1067(28) on *Framework and Procedures for the IMO Member State Audit Scheme*, within the area of competence of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Strategic direction, if applicable: 1 and 6

Output: Not applicable

Action to be taken: Paragraph 6

Related documents: SOLAS regulation V/5; resolutions A.1067(28), A.1070(28) and A.1051(27); MSC 80/24; MSC 81/24/1, MSC 81/24/4; MSC.1/Circ.1310/Rev.1 and Circular Letter No.3425

Introduction

1 At its twenty-eighth session, the Assembly adopted resolutions A.1067(28) on *Framework and Procedures for the IMO Member State Audit Scheme* and resolution A.1070(28) on *IMO Instruments Implementation Code (III Code)*.

2 At MSC 80, the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) were invited to provide additional guidance for the audit scheme in their respective areas of competence. Submissions on additional guidance were provided by IHO and IALA at MSC 81.

3 During the voluntary implementation of the Member State Audit Scheme, both guidelines, provided in annexes to the submissions from IALA (MSC 81/24/1) and IHO (MSC 81/24/4) were noted at MSC 81. These guidelines had been subsequently taken on board and included in the Auditor's Manual, as disseminated by Circular Letter No.3425 (with a corrigendum), and referred to in its paragraph 8.1 and attached in its annex 3. The Member State Audit Scheme became mandatory in January 2016 and a number of Member States audits have been conducted, using this Manual as a good reference.

4 The provision of meteorological Maritime Safety Information is outlined in resolution A.1051(27) on *IMO/WMO Worldwide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service (WWMIWS)*. The service standards maintained by WMO for met-ocean information services are documented in the *IMO/IHO/WMO Joint Manual on Maritime Safety Information* (MSC.1/Circ.1310/Rev.1), and the WMO Publication Manual on Marine Meteorological Service (WMO No.558).

5 To assist Member States and the IMO audit team in relation to service standards of met-ocean information services complying with SOLAS regulation V/5, WMO has consulted with its Members and offers additional guidance as provided in the annex to this document.

Action requested of the Committee

6 The Committee is invited to consider the guidance as set out in the annex and take action, as appropriate.

ANNEX

GUIDANCE FOR MEMBER STATES AND IMO AUDITORS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SOLAS REGULATION V/5

This document outlines the guidelines for Member States and auditors in relation to the implementation of SOLAS regulation V/5.

1 Quality management of service provision

Please complete the following relating to management of Met-Ocean Maritime Safety Information (MSI) service provision:

- (a) Are quality management systems implemented?
- (b) Is the responsibility for providing marine meteorological services officially assigned by your government, by decree or any other legal text, to an organization within your country? If so, please specify.
- (c) Are there regular meetings with relevant government agencies and marine users?
- (d) Is there regular assessment of the quality of marine meteorological services? (Quality may be defined as performance of accuracy, or the extent to which user requirements are met.)
- (e) Is there a process for reviewing and updating the information pertaining to your national marine meteorological service in the documents: Weather Reporting (WMO-No. 9), Volume D – Information for Shipping, and the GMDSS Master Plan? (Auditor to record date of last review.)
- (f) Do you require capacity-building support to help develop your marine meteorological services? If the answer to this question is "yes", please indicate in which aspect that support is required.

Continue to section 2 on Met-Ocean Maritime Safety Information (MSI).

2 Met-Ocean Maritime Safety Information (MSI)

Please complete the following relating to the provision of met-ocean MSI (answer as Yes, No or Partial, and comments should be added where appropriate).

- (a) Do you provide marine forecasts and warnings for ports and coastal waters within your national jurisdiction?
- (b) Do you provide marine forecasts and warnings for a METAREA, as part of your designated responsibility within the IMO/WMO Worldwide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service (WWMIWS)?

If the answer is "no" to both of the above, please outline reasons for not providing marine forecasts and warnings for your national jurisdiction? [Proceed to section 4 on observations from ships]

If the answer is "yes" to either of the above, proceed with the following questions:

- (a) Do met-ocean MSI forecast products include wind information?
- (b) Do met-ocean MSI forecast products include sea state information?
- (c) Do met-ocean MSI forecast products include information about reduced visibility?
- (d) Are warnings for wind speeds greater than Beaufort 8 (34 knots) issued?
- (e) If you have seasonal occurrence of ships reporting on ice accretion hazards in your area, do you issue ice accretion warnings?
- (f) If annual or seasonal sea-ice (including icebergs) occurs in your area, do the MSI forecast products include information about sea-ice?
- (g) Do you provide specific assistance to authorities responsible for Search and Rescue?
- (h) Do you provide specific assistance to authorities responsible for Marine Environmental Emergency Response (e.g. oil spills, biological hazards)?

Continue to section 3 on general administration of the WWMIWS.

3 General administration information for the IMO/WMO Worldwide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service (WWMIWS)

- (a) Are you a METAREA Coordinator? If so, for which area? (If you answer "no" to this question go to question c and d.)
- (b) If you are a METAREA Coordinator, who are the Issuing Services and/or Preparation Services within your METAREA for enhanced group call (EGC) broadcasts?
- (c) Are you an Issuing Service?
- (d) Are you a Preparation Service?

Continue to section 4 on facilitating observations from ships.

4 Facilitating observations from ships

- (a) Do you have a process to encourage vessels under your national flag to make and record weather observations, and to share these observations with the relevant meteorological service providers?
