



# IMO III 4 Meeting Summary

February 9, 2018

The Sub-Committee on the Implementation of IMO Instruments (III) of the International Maritime Organization met for its 4<sup>th</sup> session in London during 11-15 September 2017.

## Port State Control (PSC)

The Sub-Committee finalized amendments to the existing PSC guidelines, *Procedures for port State control, 2011* (Resolution A.1052(27)). A draft Assembly resolution was developed and will be submitted to the next Assembly meeting in December 2017 for adoption.

The updated version includes guidance for PSC officers on: certification of seafarers, hours of rest and manning; voluntary early implementation of amendments to the SOLAS Convention and relevant mandatory instruments; the provision of documentary evidence required under the STCW Convention; fire integrity of bulkheads between the wheelhouse and a toilet inside a wheelhouse, the location of manually operated call point, and the minimum width of external escape routes.

## Updated Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC)

The Sub-Committee finalized amendments of the existing HSSC guidelines, *Survey Guidelines under the HSSC, 2015* (Resolution A.1104(29)). A draft Assembly resolution was developed and will be submitted to the next Assembly meeting in December 2017 for adoption.

These new guidelines include amendments arising from revisions to various IMO Instruments that have entered into force by 31 December 2017, in particular the Ballast Water Management Convention, the IGF Code and the Polar Code. Given that amendments to IMO instruments is a continuous process, the sub-committee agreed that an updated, comprehensive version of the HSSC guidelines will be submitted to each regular session of the Assembly for consideration and adoption. The update will be based on revisions made to relevant IMO instruments that will enter into force before the end of each biennium.

## Non-exhaustive list of obligations under instruments relevant to the IMO instruments Implementation (III) Code

The Sub-Committee finalized amendments of the existing *2015 Non-exhaustive list of obligations under instruments relevant to the IMO instruments implementation Code* (Resolution A.1105(29)). A draft Assembly resolution was developed and will be submitted to the next Assembly meeting in December 2017 for adoption.

These new guidelines include amendments arising from revisions to various mandatory IMO Instruments that will enter into force by 01 July 2018.

Given that amendments to IMO instruments is a continuous process, the sub-committee agreed that a future version of the non-exhaustive list of obligations based on revisions made to relevant IMO instruments that will enter into force by 01 July 2020 will be submitted to the next regular session of the Assembly for consideration and adoption.

## Extension of IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme

The Sub-Committee agreed to extend, on a voluntary basis, the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme to more vessels. A draft Assembly resolution was developed and will be submitted to the next Assembly meeting in December 2017 for adoption.

The scheme will in future apply to ships of 100 GT and above, including fishing vessels of steel and non-steel hull construction; passenger ships of less than 100 GT, high-speed passenger craft and mobile drilling units, engaged on international voyages; and to all motorized inboard fishing vessels of less than 100 GT down to a size limit of 12 metres in length overall (LOA) authorized to operate outside waters under national jurisdiction of the flag State.

## Illegal, Unreported, Unregulated (IUU) Fishing

In considering the outcomes from the third IMO/FAO Joint Working Group on IUU Fishing and related matters, the sub-committee agreed to a wide ranging number of recommendations, including:

- that the term "illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing" refers to the activities as described in article 1(e) of the *Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing* (PSMA), as reflected in paragraph 3 of the *2001 FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU fishing*;
- promote the FAO Agreement on PSMA; and
- assist FAO in exploring how the IMO Mandatory Audit Scheme could contribute to the Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance, taking into account the benefits that the III Code and the Mandatory Audit Scheme provide to the Organization.

## Casualty investigation and lessons learned

Information on marine casualties and incidents are available to the public on the IMO GISIS database at:

<https://gisis.imo.org/Public/MCI/Default.aspx>.

Lessons learned from such incidents are also available to the public on the IMO website:

<http://www.imo.org/en/OurWork/MSAS/Casualties/Pages/Lessons-learned.aspx>

## Port reception facilities (PRF)

The Sub-Committee considered the continuing concerns of inadequate, and sometimes lack of, port reception facilities (PRF) to receive bulk carrier cargo residues and hold washing water to comply with MARPOL Annex V requirements. Some 70 cases of allegedly inadequate port reception facilities were reported to the IMO throughout 2016. Member States were reminded to report inadequacies, using the format in MEPC.1/Circ 834, Appendix 1; to update and review existing data on PRFs within GISIS database at:

<https://gisis.imo.org/Public/PRF/Default.aspx>, in particular those for HME cargo residues and hold washings; and provide incentives for ports and terminals to increase investment in the provision of adequate PRFs. In order to avoid difficulties, shipowners are reminded that information on PRF is available on the IMO GISIS database.

The next meeting of the III Sub-committee is scheduled for: 24-28 September 2018

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