



13 – INTERNATIONAL

13.5 – IMO

13.5.1 – Report on MSC 102

Note by the Secretariat

INTRODUCTION

The one hundred and second session of the IMO MSC was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and instead held as a virtual meeting from 4 to 11 November 2020, chaired by Mr Brad Groves (Australia), supported by the vice-chair, Mr Juan Carlos Cubisino (Argentina).

REPORT OF NCSR7

Revision of the Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services - Resolution A.857(20)

The committee approved a draft Assembly resolution on Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services, as drafted by NCSR, containing a revision of resolution A.857(20). The committee noted the Sub-Committee's view that with regard to the establishment of VTS beyond the terrestrial seas of coastal states on the basis of voluntary participation, no particular involvement of MEPC and LEG would be required with respect to the resolution.

The draft resolution will be sent for adoption to Assembly 32, which will be held in early December 2021.

Satellite navigation systems

With regard to satellite navigation systems, all ships shall have on board a receiver for a recognized global navigation satellite system or a terrestrial radio navigation system. Operators include, for example, GPS (USA), Galileo (EU), GLONASS (Russia) and BeiDou (China).

MSC 102 recognized the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) as a component of the World-Wide Radio Navigation System for the provision of positioning, navigation, and timing services. And, the committee approved draft performance standards for receivers for the Quasi-Zenith Satellite System (QZSS) under establishment by Japan.

MEASURES FOR COVID-19

As part of the crew change issue, the meeting approved an MSC circular containing the industry-developed recommended framework of protocols for ensuring safe ship crew changes and travel during the Covid-19 pandemic, and agreed to develop a universal logo/symbol to aid seafarers to access and navigate available services. The committee also agreed to make information on ports facilitating crew changes available in IMO's online information database GISIS.



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OTHER MATTERS

IMO published the revised preliminary programme of meetings for 2021 (PROG/129/Preliminary/Rev.1).

THE COUNCIL IS REQUESTED TO

Note the information provided.