ANNEX 2

RESOLUTION MSC.152(78)
(adopted on 20 May 2004)

ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974, AS AMENDED

THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE,

RECALLING Article 28(b) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Committee,

RECALLING FURTHER article VIII(b) of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974 (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention"), concerning the amendment procedure applicable to the Annex to the Convention, other than the provisions of chapter I thereof,

HAVING CONSIDERED, at its seventy-eighth session, amendments to the Convention, proposed and circulated in accordance with article VIII(b)(i) thereof,

1. ADOPTS, in accordance with article VIII(b)(iv) of the Convention, amendments to the Convention, the text of which is set out in the Annex to the present resolution;

2. DETERMINES, in accordance with article VIII(b)(vi)(2)(bb) of the Convention, that the said amendments shall be deemed to have been accepted on 1 January 2006, unless, prior to that date, more than one third of the Contracting Governments to the Convention or Contracting Governments the combined merchant fleets of which constitute not less than 50% of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant fleet, have notified their objections to the amendments;

3. INVITES SOLAS Contracting Governments to note that, in accordance with article VIII(b)(vii)(2) of the Convention, the amendments shall enter into force on 1 July 2006 upon their acceptance in accordance with paragraph 2 above;

4. REQUESTS the Secretary-General, in conformity with article VIII(b)(v) of the Convention, to transmit certified copies of the present resolution and the text of the amendments contained in the Annex to all Contracting Governments to the Convention;

5. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General to transmit copies of this resolution and its Annex to Members of the Organization, which are not Contracting Governments to the Convention.

ANNEX

AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974, AS AMENDED

CHAPTER III
LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES AND ARRANGEMENTS

Regulation 19 – Emergency training and drills

1 The existing text of paragraph 3.3.3 is replaced by the following:

"3.3.3 Except as provided in paragraphs 3.3.4 and 3.3.5, each lifeboat shall be launched, and manoeuvred in the water by its assigned operating crew, at least once every three months during an abandon ship drill."

Regulation 20 – Operational readiness, maintenance and inspections

2 In paragraph 1, in the second sentence, the words "paragraphs 3 and 6.2" are replaced by the words "paragraphs 3.2, 3.3 and 6.2".

3 The existing text of paragraph 3 is replaced by the following:

"**3 Maintenance**

3.1 Maintenance, testing and inspections of life–saving appliances shall be carried out based on the guidelines developed by the Organization* and in a manner having due regard to ensuring reliability of such appliances.

3.2 Instructions for on-board maintenance of life-saving appliances complying with regulation 36 shall be provided and maintenance shall be carried out accordingly.

3.3 The Administration may accept, in compliance with the requirements of paragraph 3.2, a shipboard planned maintenance programme, which includes the requirements of regulation 36."

4 The existing text of paragraph 6 is replaced by the following:

"**6 Weekly inspection**

The following tests and inspections shall be carried out weekly and a report of the inspection shall be entered in the log-book:

* Refer to the Guidelines for periodic servicing and maintenance of lifeboats, launching appliances and on-load release gear (MSC/Circ.1093).

.1 all survival craft, rescue boats and launching appliances shall be visually inspected to ensure that they are ready for use. The inspection shall include, but is not limited to, the condition of hooks, their attachment to the lifeboat and the on-load release gear being properly and completely reset;

.2 all engines in lifeboats and rescue boats shall be run for a total period of not less than 3 min, provided the ambient temperature is above the minimum temperature required for starting and running the engine. During this period of time, it should be demonstrated that the gear box and gear box train are engaging satisfactorily. If the special characteristics of an outboard motor fitted to a rescue boat would not allow it to be run other than with its propeller submerged for a period of 3 min, it should be run for such a period as prescribed in the manufacturer's handbook. In special cases, the Administration may waive this requirement for ships constructed before 1 July 1986;

.3 lifeboats, except free-fall lifeboats, on cargo ships shall be moved from their stowed position, without any persons on board, to the extent necessary to demonstrate satisfactory operation of launching appliances, if weather and sea conditions so allow; and

.4 the general emergency alarm shall be tested."

5 In paragraph 7, the existing text is numbered as paragraph 7.2 and the following new paragraph 7.1 is added:

"7.1 All lifeboats, except free-fall lifeboats, shall be turned out from their stowed position, without any persons on board if weather and sea conditions so allow."

6 The existing text of paragraph 11 is replaced by the following:

"**11 Periodic servicing of launching appliances and on-load release gear**

11.1 Launching appliances shall be:

.1 maintained in accordance with instructions for on-board maintenance as required by regulation 36;

.2 subject to a thorough examination at the annual surveys required by regulations I/7 or I/8, as applicable; and

.3 upon completion of the examination referred to in .2 subjected to a dynamic test of the winch brake at maximum lowering speed. The load to be applied shall be the mass of the lifeboat without persons on board, except that, at intervals not exceeding five years, the test shall be carried out with a proof load of 1.1 times the maximum working load of the winch.

11.2 Lifeboat on-load release gear shall be:

.1 maintained in accordance with instructions for on-board maintenance as required by regulation 36;

.2 subject to a thorough examination and operational test during the annual surveys required by regulations I/7 and I/8 by properly trained personnel familiar with the system; and

.3 operationally tested under a load of 1.1 times the total mass of the lifeboat when loaded with its full complement of persons and equipment whenever the release gear is overhauled. Such over-hauling and test shall be carried out at least once every five years.[*]"

Regulation 32 – Personal life-saving appliances

7 The existing text of paragraph 3 is replaced by the following:

"**3 Immersion suits**

3.1 This paragraph applies to all cargo ships. However, with respect to cargo ships constructed before 1 July 2006, paragraphs 3.2 to 3.5 shall be complied with not later than the first safety equipment survey on or after 1 July 2006.

3.2 An immersion suit complying with the requirements of section 2.3 of the Code shall be provided for every person on board the ship. However, for ships other than bulk carriers, as defined in regulation IX/1, these immersion suits need not be required if the ship is constantly engaged on voyages in warm climates[**] where, in the opinion of the Administration, immersion suits are unnecessary.

3.3 If a ship has any watch or work stations which are located remotely from the place or places where immersion suits are normally stowed, additional immersion suits shall be provided at these locations for the number of persons normally on watch or working at those locations at any time.

3.4 Immersion suits shall be so placed as to be readily accessible and their position shall be plainly indicated.

3.5 The immersion suits required by this regulation may be used to comply with the requirements of regulation 7.3."

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[*] Refer to the Recommendation on testing of life-saving appliances, adopted by the Organization by resolution A.689(17). For life-saving appliances installed on board on or after 1 July 1999, refer to the Revised Recommendations on testing of life-saving appliances, adopted by the Organization by resolution MSC.81(70).

[**] Refer to the Guidelines for assessment of thermal protection (MSC/Circ.1046).

CHAPTER IV
RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS

Regulation 15 – Maintenance requirements

8 The existing text of paragraph 9 is replaced by the following:

"9 Satellite EPIRBs shall be:

.1 annually tested for all aspects of operational efficiency, with special emphasis on checking the emission on operational frequencies, coding and registration, at intervals as specified below:

.1 on passenger ships, within 3 months before the expiry date of the Passenger Ship Safety Certificate; and

.2 on cargo ships, within 3 months before the expiry date, or 3 months before or after the anniversary date, of the Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificate.

The test may be conducted on board the ship or at an approved testing station; and

.2 subject to maintenance at intervals not exceeding five years, to be performed at an approved shore-based maintenance facility."

APPENDIX
CERTIFICATES

Record of Equipment for the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate (Form E)

9 In section 2, item 9 is deleted and items 10, 10.1 and 10.2 are renumbered as items 9, 9.1 and 9.2 respectively.

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