

MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE
89th session
Agenda item 16

MSC 89/16
21 January 2011
Original: ENGLISH

FORMAL SAFETY ASSESSMENT

Outcome of MSC 88

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document recalls the outcome of MSC 88 related to formal safety assessment (FSA)

Strategic direction: 12.1

High-level action: 12.1.1

Planned output: 12.1.1.1

Action to be taken: Paragraph 5

Related documents: MSC 88/26, section 17 and Circular letter No.3146

Revision of the FSA Guidelines and Guidance on the use of HEAP and FSA

1 MSC 88 recalled that MSC 87 had established a Correspondence Group on Formal Safety Assessment (FSA) and instructed it to prepare draft revised FSA Guidelines and Guidance on the use of HEAP and FSA, for submission to MSC 89.

Arrangements for the FSA Experts Group

2 Taking into account document MSC 88/17/1 (Secretariat) regarding future arrangements for the FSA Experts Group, MSC 88 agreed, in principle, that the FSA Experts Group be established prior to MSC 89 (scheduled for 9 and 10 May 2011, see Circular letter No.3146), with the following terms of reference:

- .1 review the FSA studies provided in documents MSC 88/19/2, MSC 88/INF.6, MSC 88/INF.8, MSC 87/20/1, MSC 87/INF.3, MSC 87/INF.4, MSC 86/INF.4 and MSC 85/19/1 and, in particular, to:
 - .1 consider whether the methodology was applied in accordance with the FSA Guidelines and the Guidance on the use of HEAP and FSA;
 - .2 check the reasonableness of the assumptions and whether the scenarios adequately addressed the issues involved;

- .3 check the validity of the input data and their transparency (e.g., historical data, comprehensiveness, availability of data, etc.);
 - .4 check whether risk control options and their interdependence were properly evaluated and supported by the assessment;
 - .5 check whether uncertainties and sensitivity issues have been properly addressed in the FSA study;
 - .6 check whether the scope of the assessment was met in the FSA study;
 - .7 check whether the expertise of participants in the FSA study was sufficient for the range of subjects under consideration; and
 - .8 report on the above issues, including discussion of any strengths and weaknesses, and the lessons learned regarding the FSA Guidelines, as well as the Guidance on the use of HEAP and FSA; and
- .2 consider the proposed final recommendations in the FSA study and advise the Committee as appropriate.

Arrangements for the GBS/FSA Working Group

3 With regard to amendments to the FSA Guidelines and the Guidance on the use of HEAP and FSA, MSC 88, noting the role of the FSA Experts Group, i.e. to review FSA studies submitted to the Organization, based on relevant guidelines, and that membership of the group was limited to nominated experts only, agreed that the above amendments should be further considered in a working group open to all Member Governments and international organizations. In this regard, the Committee agreed to establish a joint Working Group on Goal-based Standards and Formal Safety Assessment.

Outcome of MEPC 61

4 With regard to the development of environmental risk evaluation criteria, in particular the cost to avert one tonne of oil spilled (CATS criterion), the Committee noted document MSC 88/17/2 (Secretariat), in particular that MEPC 61, having considered relevant documents submitted to the session and recognizing the urgent need for the work on environmental risk evaluation criteria to be completed, for inclusion in the FSA Guidelines, had agreed to establish a working group at MEPC 62, with a view to concluding the work on the environmental risk evaluation criteria at that session.

Action requested of the Committee

5 The Committee is invited to note the above information.
