

MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE
89th session
Agenda item 5

MSC 89/5/1
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GOAL-BASED NEW SHIP CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

Implementation of the GBS verification scheme

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This document reports on the current status of the implementation of the GBS verification scheme
<i>Strategic direction:</i>	10
<i>High-level action:</i>	10.0.1
<i>Planned output:</i>	10.0.1.1
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 6
<i>Related documents:</i>	MSC 87/26, section 5 and annex 13; and MSC 88/5/3

1 The Committee will recall that MSC 87, as part of the package of measures concerning goal-based ship construction standards (GBS) for bulk carriers and oil tankers, approved the timetable and schedule of activities for the implementation of the GBS verification scheme (MSC 87/26, paragraph 5.34 and annex 13). This document reports on the implementation activities and preparation work for the conduct of audits carried out by the Secretariat in line with the above timetable.

2 In line with the timetable, the Secretariat has to date carried out the following activities:

- .1 issued a circular letter calling for nominations of auditors (Circular letter No.3076 of 19 July 2010) and processed received nominations.

By the date of this document, the Secretariat has received 11 nominations for GBS auditors from nine Member Governments. This number is not considered sufficient to allow for the proper selection and establishment of audit teams. So far, no nominations have been received from organizations in consultative status with IMO;

- .2 issued a circular letter inviting advanced notification of intention to submit a verification request (Circular letter No.3097 of 23 August 2010).

By the date of this document, the Secretariat has received two advanced notifications of intent to submit a request for a GBS verification audit, from RINA and Lloyd's Register.

3 The implementation activities are currently carried out by the Marine Technology Section of the Organization under the supervision of the Head of the Section and have so far been absorbed in the work of the Section. It is not foreseen that additional resources are needed in this early phase of the implementation of the verification scheme. However, this is expected to change with the commencement of actual GBS audits in 2012/2013, also taking into account, as noted at MSC 87, any progress made by IACS with the development of the Harmonized Common Structural Rules (HSR) for oil tankers and bulk carriers and the resulting possibilities to combine rule reviews in an efficient manner (see MSC 87/26, paragraph 5.36).

4 In the meantime, the Secretariat will continue with the preparation work for the implementation of the verification scheme, in particular with:

- .1 establishment and maintenance of a roster of GBS auditors;
- .2 development of model contract and confidentiality agreement for GBS auditors;
- .3 development of model letter of agreement between IMO and submitters of verification requests;
- .4 design, development and maintenance of a GBS database, including the above as well as details of Audit Teams established (including travel arrangements, DSA, audit fees, etc.); interim/final reports of Audit Teams; details of verification results as approved by the MSC; appeal requests and results etc.; and
- .5 relevant staff training.

5 The Secretariat will continue to submit regular progress reports on the status of the preparations to the Committee.

Action requested of the Committee

6 The Committee is invited to note the information provided above and take action as deemed appropriate.
