



MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE
83rd session
Agenda item 20

MSC 83/20/4
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GENERAL CARGO SHIP SAFETY

SURSHIP – FSA on dry cargo ships

Submitted by Germany

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document comments on document MSC 83/20 and the Committee's discussion on the safety of general cargo ships. It also provides information on an envisaged FSA study on dry cargo ships to be carried out under the umbrella of ERANET SURSHIP

Action to be taken: Paragraph 7

Related documents: MSC 72/16; MSC 82/5/1, MSC 82/21/19, MSC 82/24; MSC 83/20 and MSC 83/27/4

1 This document provides comments on document MSC 83/20 (Secretariat) and is submitted in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4.10.5 of the Guidelines on the organization and method of work (MSC-MEPC.1/Circ.1). Specifically, this document comments on the Committee's discussion on the safety of general cargo ships.

Introduction

2 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its eighty-second session, considered document MSC 82/21/19 by the Russian Federation and agreed to include, in the provisional agenda for MSC 83, an agenda item on "General Cargo Ship Safety" to assess the adequacy of current safety requirements for general cargo ships. And, when the necessary information has been submitted, to consider establishing an ad hoc Working Group on General Cargo Ship Safety at a session (MSC 82/24).

3 The current level of safety for ships is currently discussed under the agenda item Goal-based Standards (GBS). IACS contributed to the establishment of this current safety level by submitting information to the correspondence group on the Safety-Level Approach (MSC 82/5/1). The category "General Cargo Ships" was presented as largest single ship type of the world fleet with the highest annual frequency of a total loss. When occupational accidents are included, individual risk per year on-board general cargo ships is shown to be larger than for any other ship type. This may be judged close to be intolerable, if compared to the proposed acceptance criteria (MSC 72/16).

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4 Member Governments and non-governmental organizations were invited to apply the FSA methodology in accordance with the Guidelines and to submit the results thereof to the Organization in accordance with the Standard Format for Reporting shown in Appendix 8 of the Guidelines.

FSA on general cargo ships

5 As part of the research framework SURSHIP, a high-level FSA study on general cargo ships will be performed, likely starting in early 2008. SURSHIP is an ERANET activity with several EU Member States aiming to coordinate nationally funded research on ship survivability (refer to document MSC 83/27/4).

Further information on SURSHIP

6 Further information about SURSHIP is contained in document MSC 83/27/4 (France, Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden).

Action requested of the Committee

7 The Committee is invited to consider the above information and take action as appropriate.
