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MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE  
84th session  
Agenda item 13

MSC 84/13  
24 January 2008  
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## GENERAL CARGO SHIP SAFETY

### Outcome of MSC 83

#### Note by the Secretariat

#### SUMMARY

<b>Executive summary:</b>	This document reports on the outcome of MSC 83 related to general cargo ship safety
<b>Strategic direction:</b>	5
<b>High-level action:</b>	2.1.1, 5.2.1 and 12.1.2
<b>Planned output:</b>	12.1.2.2
<b>Action to be taken:</b>	Paragraph 5
<b>Related documents:</b>	MSC 83/20, MSC 83/20/1, MSC 83/20/2, MSC 83/20/3, MSC 83/20/4, MSC 83/20/5, MSC 83/20/6, MSC 83/INF.10 and MSC 83/28

#### General

1 The Committee will recall that MSC 83, following consideration of documents MSC 83/20/1 and Corr.1 (Argentina), MSC 83/20/2 and MSC 83/INF.10 (New Zealand), MSC 83/20/3 (RINA), MSC 83/20/4 (Germany), MSC 83/20/5 (Republic of Korea) and MSC 83/20/6 (India), containing proposals on matters related to the safety general cargo ships, agreed:

- .1 there was an urgent need to consider the safety of general cargo ships, taking into account the current safety level of these types of ships;
- .2 more detailed information, analysis of the cause of accidents involving general cargo ships and related FSA study (in particular, the outcome of the SURSHIP project) were needed to facilitate the identification of the problem areas of such ships and consideration of the appropriate measures to be taken, bearing in mind a variety of ship types covered by the category of general cargo ships; and
- .3 a working group should be established to:
  - .1 examine all the related information submitted at this session, results of analysis and FSA studies;

- .2 develop the definition of a general cargo ship;
- .3 identify the type of ships covered by category of general cargo ships which should be dealt with under the item;
- .4 develop the strategy for how best to proceed on the issue; and
- .5 develop appropriate measures to enhance the safety of general cargo ships.

2 In respect of some specific proposals made in the documents submitted to the session, the following observations were made at MSC 83:

- .1 concerning proposals (MSC 83/20/1 and MSC 83/20/6) to adapt the Enhanced Survey Programme Guidelines (resolution (A.744(18))) to general cargo ships, while some delegations supported the proposals, other delegations were of the opinion that it would be premature to take such an action prior to collecting sufficient information (see also paragraph 20.3.2); and
- .2 concerning the proposal (MSC 83/20/2 and MSC 83/INF.10) to take measures to address shipboard lifting appliances safety, while the safety problem of those appliances was generally recognized, some delegations expressed the view that the problem does not necessarily relate only to general cargo ships and, therefore, the matter needs a wider consideration.

3 Having extensively discussed the submissions on the subject, the Committee agreed to include, in the provisional agenda for MSC 84, an 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 future session.

4 Consequently, MSC 83 invited Member Governments and international organizations to submit, to MSC 84, further information and relevant proposals on the matter.

#### **Action requested of the Committee**

5 The Committee is invited to note the above information.

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