

MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE
103rd session
Agenda item 9

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MEASURES TO ENHANCE MARITIME SECURITY

Comments on document MSC 102/9 – Updates on recent developments related to maritime security

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SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document informs the Committee about an update to "The Guidelines on Cyber Security Onboard Ships" and invites the committee to endorse the updated guidelines by sending them out under an MSC circular

*Strategic direction,
if applicable:* 5

Output: Not applicable

Action to be taken: Paragraph 5

Related documents: MSC 102/9; MSC 101/4/1; MSC-FAL.1/Circ.3 and resolution MSC.428(98)

Background

1 Cyber security constitutes an important element in ensuring ships are managed and operated in accordance with the safety and security management practices established by IMO under SOLAS. Cyber security is broadly recognized as an important element to the protection of ships and ports from threats posed by terrorism and other illicit acts and forms part of IMO's global Enhancement of Maritime Security programme as described in document MSC 102/9.

2 In document MSC-FAL.1/Circ.3, cyber risk management was also identified as critical to the safety and security of shipping and protection of the marine environment and, referencing the latest version of "The Guidelines on Cyber Security Onboard Ships" MSC-FAL.1/Circ.3 gave high-level guidance on maritime cyber risk management.

3 Resolution MSC.428(98) furthermore affirmed that an approved safety management system should take into account cyber risk management in accordance with the objectives and functional requirements of the ISM Code, encouraged Administrations to ensure that cyber

risks were appropriately addressed in safety management systems no later than the first annual verification of the company's Document of Compliance after 1 January 2021, acknowledged necessary precautions that could be needed to preserve the confidentiality of certain aspects of cyber risk management, and finally requested Member States to bring the resolution to the attention of all stakeholders.

4 To stay abreast with technical developments and recent experience, and in line with IMO guidelines and decisions, the industry associations behind The Guidelines on Cyber Security Onboard Ships have on 23 December 2020 published an updated version of the guidelines, available through the official IMO website at the following address:
<https://www.imo.org/en/OurWork/Security/Pages/Cyber-security.aspx>

Action requested of the Committee

5 The Committee is invited to note the information provided and endorse the latest version of The Guidelines on Cyber Security Onboard Ships by sending them out under an MSC circular, a draft of which is annexed for the Committee's consideration.

ANNEX

Draft MSC circular

The Guidelines on Cyber Security Onboard Ships

1 In document MSC-FAL.1/Circ.3 the Facilitation Committee at its forty-first session (4 to 7 April 2017), and the Maritime Safety Committee, at its ninety-eighth session (7 to 16 June 2017) identified cyber risk management as critical to the safety and security of shipping and protection of the marine environment and gave high-level guidance on cyber risk management referencing the latest version of "The Guidelines on Cyber Security Onboard Ships".

2 Resolution MSC.428(98) furthermore affirmed that an approved safety management system should take into account cyber risk management in accordance with the objectives and functional requirements of the ISM Code, encouraged Administrations to ensure that cyber risks were appropriately addressed in safety management systems no later than the first annual verification of the company's Document of Compliance after 1 January 2021, acknowledged necessary precautions that could be needed to preserve the confidentiality of certain aspects of cyber risk management, and finally requested Member States to bring the resolution to the attention of all stakeholders.

3 At its 103rd session, the Maritime Safety Committee noted that to stay abreast with technical developments and recent experience in the field of cyber security, and in line with IMO guidelines and decisions, the industry associations behind The Guidelines on Cyber Security Onboard Ships had on 23 December 2020 published an updated version of the guidelines, available through the official IMO website at the following address: http://www.imo.org/en/OurWork/Security/Guide_to_Maritime_Security/Pages/Cyber-security.aspx

4 Member States are advised to take into account the updated version 4 of The Guidelines on Cyber Security Onboard Ships, and advise relevant stakeholders including ship owners, -operators and -managers to take into account, as appropriate, these guidelines when addressing cyber risks to ships in accordance with the objectives and functional requirements of the ISM Code as encouraged by resolution MSC.428(98).
