



Report on IMO Meeting

NCSR 4 (06.03. - 10.03.2017)

In the following report IFSMA comments for the various Agenda items follow i, ii, iii, etc.

The fourth session of the Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communication, Search and Rescue (NCSR) was held on the 6th to 10th March 2017, under the chairmanship of Mr. Ringo Lakeman (Netherlands), and vice-chairman was Mr. Nigel Clifford (New Zealand).

IFSMA Delegation

Capt. Willi Wittig, IFSMA Deputy President

Capt. Paul Owen, IFSMA Assistant Secretary General

Additional notes by Cmdre Jim Scorer IFSMA Secretary General

Three Working Groups and one Drafting Group were established:

- Navigation Working Group
- Experts Group on Ships' Routing
- Communications Working Group
- SAR Working Group
- Drafting Group modernisation plan & performance standards for GMDSS.

Venue

IMO Headquarters, London, United Kingdom

Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Decisions of other IMO Bodies
3. Routing Measures and Mandatory Ship Reporting Systems
4. Updates to the LRIT System
Algerian data centre
Cambodia – remove from data centre audit list. Data distribution plan extend 31st April 2017.
4/4/5 China. Invalid CTRs. Electronic certificates (CTRs) have advantages. QR codes. Suggest intro on voluntary basis. .MSC Circs. LRIT Conformance Test Reports (CTRs)
5. Interconnection of NAVTEX and Inmarsat SafetyNET Receivers and their Display on Integrated Navigation Display Systems
6. Guidelines associated with Multi-System Shipborne Radionavigation Receivers dealing with the Harmonized Provision of PNT Data and Integrity Information
7. Additional Modules to the Revised Performance Standards for Integrated Navigation Systems (INS) (Resolution MSC.252(83)) relating to the Harmonization of Bridge Design and Display of Information

International Federation of Shipmasters' Associations

8. Guidelines for the Harmonized Display of Navigation Information Received via Communications Equipment
9. Revised Guidelines and Criteria for Ship Reporting Systems (Resolution MSC.43(64))
10. Performance Standards for Shipborne GMDSS Equipment to Accommodate Additional Providers of GMDSS Satellite Services
11. Updating of the GMDSS Master Plan and Guidelines on MSI (Maritime Safety Information) Provisions.
12. Draft Modernization Plan of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)
13. Analysis of Developments in Maritime Radiocommunication Systems and Technology
14. Review SOLAS Chapter IV and Appendix (Certificates: Forms P, R and C) to Accommodate Additional Mobile Satellite Systems
15. Response to Matters Related to the Radiocommunication ITU-R Study Group
16. Response to Matters Related to ITU World Radiocommunication Conference
17. Measures to Protect the Safety of Persons Rescued at Sea
18. Developments in GMDSS Satellite Services
19. Revised Performance Standards for EPIRBs operating on 406 MHz (Resolution A.810(19)) to include Cospas-Sarsat MEOSAR and Second Generation Beacons
20. Further Development of the Provision of Global Maritime SAR Services
21. Guidelines on Harmonized Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Procedures, including SAR Training Matters
22. Amendments to the IAMSAR Manual
23. Revised Guidelines for Preparing Plans for Cooperation between Search and Rescue Services and Passenger Ships (MSC.1/Circ.1079)
24. Unified Interpretation of Provisions of IMO Safety, Security, and Environment Related Conventions
25. Biennial Status Report and Provisional Agenda for NCSR 5
26. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2018
27. Any other Business
28. Consequential Work Related to the New Polar Code
29. Report to the Maritime Safety Committee

Agenda 1 Adoption of the agenda

- a. Secretary General opened the meeting and in particular made reference to the 2017 World Maritime Day and the importance of the chosen theme "Connecting Ships, Ports and People". Furthermore, he highlighted the importance of the work ahead at this meeting in the areas of "Maritime Safety" and "e-Navigation". His full speech may be found here: <<http://tinyurl.com/k93enmk>>
- b. Chair reminded on the very busy schedule of this meeting and invited delegations to be brief and if needed to send longer interventions in any other IMO working language than English in advance to translation service.

Agenda 2 Decisions of other IMO Bodies

- a. 4/2 - Secretariat - Outcome of FAL 40, MEPC 69 and MSC 96
- b. 4/2/1- Secretariat - Outcome of C 116, III 3, MEPC 70 and MSC 97

Agenda item 3 Routeing Measures and Mandatory Ship Reporting Systems (5.2.4.1)

- a. 4/3 - Japan - Establishment of a recommended route off the western coast of Izu O Shima Island, Japan
 - i. IFSMA Sec Gen was asked to comment on this proposal in its Draft Stage prior to submission. I strongly argued that if they want to reduce the risk of collision then it should be a Mandatory Scheme and extended further to the SW. The Japanese explained that if they did this the Fishermen would have been against the scheme.
 - ii The recommended scheme was approved.

- b. 4/3/1 - UK - Amendments to Long Sand Head two-way route and SUNK Inner precautionary area in the existing traffic separation scheme "In the SUNK area and in the Northern approaches to the Thames Estuary"
 - i This proposal was approved.
- c. 4/3/2 - Costa Rica - Establishment of a new area to be avoided off the Pacific coast of Costa Rica
 - i. The Group, after having made modifications to the proposal to decrease the size of the ATBA on the northern half in Bahia de Coronado, agreed with the establishment of a new area to be avoided "Off Peninsula de Osa in the Pacific coast off Costa Rica", as set out in annex 3, and invited the Sub-Committee to approve it with a view to adoption by the Committee.
- d. 4/3/3 - Costa Rica - Establishment of a recommendatory two-way route in Golfo Dulce, off the Pacific coast of Costa Rica
 - i. The Group, following the concerns expressed and noting that the objectives proposed could still be implemented nationally, agreed to invite the proponent to consider establishing and implementing an appropriate national ships' routeing measure after first completing a detailed comparison study, within the remit as a coastal State, taking into account the effect of the newly established ATBA, if and once adopted by the Committee, as agreed in paragraph 4.8, and invited the Sub-Committee to concur with the conclusion.
- e. 4/3/4 - Philippines - Establishment of an area to be avoided and adjacent two-way routes with a precautionary area as Associated Protective Measures for the Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) in the Sulu Sea, Philippines
 - i. The Group, after having made minor editorial modifications to the proposal on the ATBA, agreed with the establishment of a new area to be avoided as an Associated Protective Measure for the "Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) in the Sulu Sea", as set out in annex 4, and invited the Sub-Committee to approve it with a view to adoption by the Committee. Further, the Group invited the proponent to study the effect of the newly established ATBA, if and once adopted by the Committee, and consider the need for the adjacent additional routeing measures in the future.

Following the above decisions, it was agreed that the Marine Environmental Protection Committee (MEPC) should be consulted, as appropriate, before such ABTA were submitted to NCSR Sub-Committee.

Agenda item 4 Updates to the LRIT System (5.2.4.2.)

- a.. 4/Inf.10 - IMSO - Scale of charges to be levied by the LRIT Coordinator during 2017
- b. 4/Inf.4 - EC - Status of the International LRIT Data Exchange system
- c. 4/4 - IMSO - Performance of the LRIT system and recommendations by the LRIT Coordinator
- d. 4/4/1 - Sec - Developments on LRIT since NCSR 3
- e. 4/4/2 - Brazil - Complementary information to the proposal for amendment to the Periodic rate change functionality
- f. 4/4/3 - IMSO - Summary audit reports of LRIT Data Centres and the International LRIT Data Exchange
- g. 4/4/4 - Vietnam - Proposal for a new "archived SURPIC request message" for coastal States
- i. Following discussion it was agreed that further submissions should be made to the next NCSR meeting addressing the concerns raised.
- h. 4/4/5 - China - Proposal to issue electronic certificates in order to enhance the management of LRIT Conformance Test Reports.

The Sub-Committee encouraged SOLAS Contracting Governments to consider issuing electronic Conformance Test Reports (CTRs), on a voluntary basis, and share their experiences related to the use and revoking process of electronic CTRs.

- i. The above were of interest only for IFSMA

Agenda item 5 - Interconnection of NAVTEX and Inmarsat SafetyNET Receivers and their Display on Integrated Navigation Display Systems (5.2.4.4)

- a. 4/16 - Sec - Report of the twelfth meeting of the Joint IMO/ITU Experts Group on Maritime radio-communication matters.
 - i. After consideration, the Sub-Committee approved the draft amendments to resolutions MSC.252(83), MSC.306(87) and MSC.148(77), as set out in annex to the Report, and invited the Committee to adopt them.
 - ii. There were no contentious issues for IFSMA

Agenda item 6 - Guidelines Associated with Multi-system Shipborne Radio-navigation Receivers Dealing with the Harmonized Provision of PNT Data and Integrity Information (5.2.4.5)

- a. 4/6 - Germany - Report of the Correspondence Group on the development of guidelines associated with multi-system shipborne radio navigation receivers
 - i. This subject was sent to the Navigation Working Group for further consideration. This was a particularly busy working group with a high workload. Their report, amongst other matters, recommended to establish a Correspondence Group to continue the work to develop Guidelines for the harmonized display of navigation information received via communications equipment.

Agenda item 7 Additional Modules to the Revised Performance Standards for Integrated Navigation Systems (INS) (Resolution MSC.252(83)) relating to the Harmonization of Bridge Design and Display of Information (5.2.6.1)

- a. 4/7 - China - Report of the Correspondence Group on the Development of additional modules to the Revised Performance Standards for INS
 - b. 4/7/1 - Ukraine - Proposal to provide for two-way connections of communications equipment, including VHF DSC controller, with INS, including ECDIS-AIS systems
 - i. Nothing contentious in this item.

Agenda item 8 - Guidelines for the Harmonized Display of Navigation Information received via Communications Equipment (5.2.6.2)

- a. 4/8 - Norway and IHO - First draft of the Guidelines
 - b. The subject was sent to the Navigation Working Group to develop draft guidelines and prepare terms of reference for a possible correspondence group to continue the work.
 - i. The Sub-Committee agreed that the Guidelines should take the human factor into account, provide user friendly recommendations and avoid introducing new training requirements. Reference to standards or other guidelines to be developed should be avoided
 - b. 4/8/1 - IHO - Development of the IHO S-100 Framework
 - i. Progress noted, nothing significant for IFSMA

Agenda item 9 - Revised Guidelines and Criteria for Ship Reporting Systems (Resolution MSC.43(64)) (5.2.6.3)

- a. 4/9 - Brazil - Comments and analysis of the testbed results to support the revision of resolution MSC.43(64)

- i. The testbed results for ship-to-shore communication and, in particular, the transmission of pre-arrival information by ships to the ports of call. This document further proposes the Architecture for Interoperating Single Windows Systems and a new GISIS feature to facilitate the use of Single Window systems.
- b. 4/9/1 - Secretariat - Reporting requirements identified as an administrative burden
- c. 4/9/2 - Norway and Singapore - Outcome of a testbed on automated ship reporting to assist the revision of the Guidelines
- d. 4/Inf.7 - Norway - Results from a ship reporting testbed in accordance with MSC.1/Circ1494
- i. Nothing significant to comment on.

Agenda item 10 - Performance Standards for GMDSS Shipborne GMDSS Equipment to Accommodate Additional Providers of GMDSS Satellite Services (5.2.5.6)

- a. 4/10 - France, CIRM et al - Draft Performance standards for ship earth station for use in the GMDSS
- b. 4/10/1 - France - Comments on the Draft Performance standards for shipborne GMDSS equipment. The Communications Working Group considered this subject but did not conclude consideration due to lack of time.
- i. Nothing significant to concern IFSMA

Agenda item 11 - Updating of the GMDSS Master Plan and Guidelines on MSI (Maritime Safety Information) Provisions (5.2.5.1)

- a. 4/11- Chairman of the IMO NAVTEX Coordinating Panel - Promulgation of Maritime Safety Information - NAVTEX Service: Annual report IMO NAVTEX Coordinating Panel, summary of the current issues being addressed by the IMO NAVTEX Coordinating Panel and its actions/activities since the third session of the Sub-Committee
- b. 4/11/1 – IHO – Outcome of the eighth session of the IHO World-Wide Navigational Warning Service Sub-Committee (WWNWS-SC)
- i. Nothing significant for IFSMA

Agenda item 12 - Draft Modernization Plan of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) (5.2.5.3)

- a. 4/12 - US - Report of the Correspondence Group on the draft of the Modernization Plan of the GMDSS
- b. 4/12/1 - Denmark - Supplementary views on the Modernization Plan of the GMDSS
- c. 4/12/2 - Islamic Republic of Iran - Recognition of Iridium Mobile Satellite System as GMDSS service provider
- d. 4/12/3 - US - Review of the Radar SART versus the AIS SART
- e. 4/12/4 - France - Comments on the draft of the Modernization Plan
- f. 4/12/5 - IHO - Comments on the draft of the Modernization Plan
- g. 4/12/6 - Sec - Liaison statement from Cospas-Sarsat to IMO concerning the distribution of GMDSS digital distress alerts in addition to the current 406 MHz beacon alerts
- h. 4/12/7 - Sec - Outcome of HTW 4
- i. 4/12/Inf.11 - Japan - Evaluation of the coverage of NAVDAT
- i. Considered the draft Modernization Plan of the GMDSS, taking into account contributions of the Correspondence Group (NCSR 4/12), the twelfth meeting of the Joint IMO/ITU Experts Group (NCSR 4/16), the twenty-third session of the ICAO/IMO Joint Working Group (NCSR 4/21), the fourth session of the HTW Sub-Committee, as well as any other documents submitted under this agenda item.

- ii. Nothing significant for IFSMA. However, the Sub-Committee instructed the Drafting Group to include the need to address the user-friendliness of GMDSS installations, when revising performance standards, to reduce the burden for seafarers.

Agenda item 13 - Analysis of Developments in Maritime Radiocommunication Systems and Technology (5.2.5.7)

- a. No Papers submitted. Invite Committee to delete this item from future agendas, adequately covered elsewhere.

Agenda item 14 - Review SOLAS Chapter IV and Appendix (Certificates: Forms P, R and C) to Accommodate Additional Mobile Satellite Systems (5.2.5.8)

- a. 4/14 - Germany et al - Proposal for amendments to SOLAS chapter IV and Certificates (Forms P, R, & C) to accommodate additional mobile satellite systems recognized for use in the GMDSS
- b. 4/14/1 - UK - Comments on the proposed amendments to SOLAS chapter IV and Certificates P, R and C
- i. Nothing Significant for IFSMA

Agenda Item 15 - Response to Matters related to the Radiocommunication ITU-R Study Group (1.1.2.2)

- a. 4/15 - Sec - Development of matters under study in Radiocommunication ITU-R Study Groups
- b. 4/15/1 - Sec - Liaison statement from ITU-R Working Party 5B to IMO - Working document towards a preliminary draft revision of recommendation ITU-R M.493-14 on Digital selective-calling system for use in the maritime mobile service
- c. 4/15/2 - Sec - Liaison statement from ITU-R Working Party 5B to IMO and IALA - Identification and categorization of autonomous maritime radio devices
- i. Nothing significant for IFSMA

Agenda item 16 - Response to Matters related to ITU World Radio-Communication Conference (1.1.2.2)

- a. 4/16 - Sec - Report of the twelfth meeting of the Joint IMO/ITU Experts Group on Maritime Radio Communication matters
- b. 4/16/1 - IALA - IALA Guideline No.1117 on VHF Data Exchange System (VDES) Overview
- i. Nothing Significant for IFSMA

Agenda item 17 - Measures to protect the safety of persons rescued at sea (5.1.2.2)

- a. No Papers submitted.
- i. The Sub-Committee recognizing that the humanitarian crisis in the Mediterranean was far from being resolved, that this continued to impact merchant shipping and that proposals might be submitted to future sessions, the Sub-Committee agreed to invite the Committee to extend the target completion year for this output to 2019.

Agenda item 18 - Developments in GMDSS Satellite Services (5.2.5.4)

- a. 4/18 - IMSO - Analysis and assessment of the GMDSS performance of Inmarsat Global Limited
- b. 4/18/1 - Cospas-Sarsat Sec - Status of the Cospas-Sarsat Programme
- c. 4/18/2 - IMSO - Update on recognition process of Iridium mobile satellite system as a potential GMDSS service provider
- d. 4/18/3- UK- Recognition of the Inmarsat FleetBroadband system for use in the GMDSS
- e. 4/18/4 - Cospas-Sarsat Sec - Developments in the Cospas-Sarsat Programme

- f. 4/Inf.9 - UK -Commentary on Inmarsat FleetBroadband System compliance
- i. Nothing significant for IFSMA Bolt-ons should be treated as new applications.
- ii. Iridium - First 10 satellites launched, next batch due.

Agenda item 19 - Revised Performance Standards for EPIRBS Operating on 406 MHz (Resolution A.810(19)) to include Cospas-Sarsat MEOSAR and Second Generation Beacons (5.2.5.5)

- a. 4/19 - US - Proposal to update Resolution A.810(19)
- b. 4/19/1 - AUS - Tests Conducted with a Beacon with a Reduced Duty Cycle Homing Signal in a Maritime Environment
- c. 4/19/2 - UK - Comments on the proposed changes to the performance standard for 406 MHz EPIRBS
- i. Nothing Significant for IFSMA

Agenda item 20 - Further Development of the Provision of Global Maritime SAR Services (2.0.3.1)

- a. 4/20 - Sec - Area Search and Rescue Plans
- b. 4/20/1 - US - SAR experts input and RCC and SAR region details for two global SAR initiatives
- c. 4/20/2 - Chile - Impact on the Chilean Maritime Authority of the increase in maritime activity in Antarctica
- i. Nothing significant for IFSMA

Agenda item 21 - Guidelines on Harmonized Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Procedures, including SAR Training Matters (2.0.3.2)

- a. 4/21 - Sec - Report of the twenty-third session of the ICAO/IMO Joint Working Group on Harmonization of Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue
 - i. Including information on Draft Modernization Plan of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (5.2.5.3) (agenda item 12); Response to matters related to the Radiocommunication ITU R Study Group (1.1.2.2) (agenda item 15); Developments in GMDSS satellite services (5.2.5.4) (agenda item 18); Revised Performance Standards for EPIRBS operating on 406 MHz (resolution A.810(19)) to include Cospas-Sarsat EOSAR and second generation beacons (5.2.5.5.) (agenda item 19); Further development of the provision of global maritime SAR services (2.0.3.1) (agenda item 20); Amendments to the IAMSAR Manual (1.3.4.1) (agenda item 22); and Revised guidelines for preparing plans for cooperation between search and rescue services and passenger ships (MSC/Circ.1079) (2.0.3.3) (agenda item 23)
- b. 4/21/1- Sec - Draft revision of SAR.7/Circ.12 – List of documents and publications which should be held by a Maritime or Joint Rescue Coordination Centre
- c. 4/21/2 - Finland and IMRF - Baltic Sea MIRG - Joint Operational Guidelines for International MIRG Operations
- d. 4/21/3 - Finland - Vessel TRIAGE - A method for assessing and communicating the safety status of vessels in maritime accidents and incidents: Feedback on test phase 2016 and way forward
 - i. The Vessel TRIAGE method was introduced for the first time at NCSR 3. After discussion, NCSR 3 encouraged Member States, SAR services and other parties to test the Vessel TRIAGE method and to provide their feedback, as appropriate, by email to Finland. In this document, Finland reports the findings as reported by Member States and proposes actions to develop an international categorization system of a vessel in difficulty to different responders.
 - ii. These documents, particularly 21/3 will be of information and interest for IFSMA.
 - iii. Noting that there was no support for the proposal, the Sub-Committee thanked Finland for the information provided and agreed not to consider the subject any further.
- e. 4/Inf.5 - Republic of Argentina and Chile - Report on the eighteenth Combined Antarctic Naval Patrol 2015-2016

Agenda Item 22 - Amendments to the IAMSAR Manual (1.3.4.1)

- a. 4/22 - US - Use of a generic term for mobile satellite systems recognized for use in the GMDSS
- i. Nothing significant for IFSMA
- ii. However, the SAR Working Group drew the attention of Member States to the risks associated with LEDs used in emergency equipment, navigation aids and obstruction lighting not detectable by night vision equipment, for their consideration and appropriate action and that the Committee and the relevant Sub-Committees should be informed of the importance of the risks associated with LEDs used in emergency equipment, navigation aids and obstruction lighting not detectable by night vision equipment.

Agenda item 23 - Revised Guidelines for Preparing Plans for Cooperation between Search and Rescue Services and Passenger Ships (MSC.1/Circ.1079) (2.0.3.3)

- a. Reference is made to document NCSR 4/21
- i. The SAR Working Group asked the Sub-Committee to endorse the proposed revised MSC/Circ.1079 on Guidelines for preparing plans for cooperation between search and rescue services and passenger ships (in accordance with SOLAS regulation V/7.3), with a view to approval by the Committee

Agenda item 24 - Unified Interpretation of Provisions of IMO Safety, Security, and Environment related Conventions (1.1.2.3)

- a. 4/24 and 4/24/1 - IACS - Annual testing of the VDR, S-VDR, AIS and EPIRB, application of COLREGs with respect to the placement of sidelights.
- b. 4/24/2 and 4/Inf.12 - Japan - Unified interpretation of resolution A.1045(27) on Pilot transfer arrangements with regard to specification of hardwood for steps of pilot ladders and information on the results of strength tests of steps of Jacob's ladders and sample pictures of sound and unsound knots
- c. 4/24/3 IMPA - Comments on the proposal for a unified interpretation of resolution A.1045(27) on Pilot transfer arrangements with regard to specification of hardwood for steps of Pilot Ladders.
- i. In support of IMPA IFSMA prepared the following intervention but due to many member states already arguing in the same direction as the IFSMA position IFSMA withdraw from intervention on the request of the chair.

“Thank you Chair and good afternoon to you and all delegations. IFSMA, representing shipmasters, would like to thank IMPA for their comments on the proposal for an unified interpretation of resolution A.1045(27) on Pilot transfer arrangements with regards to specification of hardwood for steps of pilot ladders. From our point of view the safe transfer of pilots and/or any other persons by use of a pilot ladder must be ensured at any time. Any potential risk from the use of faulty pilot ladder steps should be avoided at any time. IFSMA therefore is not in favour of any “unified interpretation of resolution A.105(27) on pilot transfer arrangements”. Thank you Chair.”

- ii. The change to specification of hardwood for steps of Pilot Ladders was not supported.

Agenda item 25 - Biennial Status Report and Provisional Agenda for NCSR 5

- a. The Sub-Committee was invited to review its biennial agenda, taking into account the progress made at this session, and to prepare the draft provisional agenda for NCSR 5, in accordance with the Committees' Guidelines, for approval by MSC 98.
- i. Nothing significant for IFSMA. The next NCSR is scheduled for 19 to 15 February 2018.

Agenda item 26 - Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2018

- a. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Maritime Safety Committee, the Sub-Committee will be invited to elect its Chair and Vice-Chair for 2018.
- b. Ringo Lakeman (Netherlands) proposed as Chairman by France seconded by Indonesia, accepted by acclamation.

- c. Deputy Chairman, Nigel Clifford (New Zealand) nominated by South Africa seconded by Panama, accepted by acclamation.
- i. These are the existing chairman and deputy chairman, so no change.

Agenda item 27 - Any Other Business

- a. 4/27 - Brazil, Norway, South Africa, IHO, IALA and IHMA - Proposal to activate the IMO-IHO Harmonization Group on Data Modelling (HGDM)
 - i. At the invitation of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC), this document invites the Sub-Committee to consider and endorse a proposal to activate the IMO-IHO Harmonization Group on Data Modelling (HGDM) to work on the post-biennial output on the development of guidance on definition and harmonization of the format and structure of Maritime Service Portfolios (MSPs)
 - ii. IFSMA can support this as it is part of E-Nav, but will be unable to participate in HGDM because of the time commitment required. Will need to watch its development.
 - iii. After some exchange of arguments whether or not to it was pre-mature to activate the IMO-IHO Harmonization Group on Data Modelling (HGDM) the chair decided to ask the working group to develop a draft time plan
 - iv. The Working Group agreed that the IMO-IHO Harmonization Group on Data Modelling should be re-established and agreed to invite the Sub-Committee to endorse this proposal, with the view to seek the Committee's approval, with a view to endorsement by Council 118.
- b. 4/27/1 - Sec - Reporting requirements identified as an administrative burden
 - i. This document informs the Sub-Committee that it has been instructed to consider the perceived administrative burdens and the Secretariat's recommendations related to reporting requirements as set out in the annex, and advise the Committee on how best to proceed to reduce those perceived administrative burdens.
 - ii. IFSMA just monitor this at plenary to ensure that what is proposed is kept simple.
- c. 4/27/2 - Sec - Closure of World VTS Guide
 - i. Confirming that the closure of the World VTS Guide would require amendments to some IMO documents.
- d. 4/27/3 - Sec - Revision of IMO model courses that fall under the responsibility of the NCSR Sub-Committee
 - i. The Sub-Committee decided to revise model course 3.14 on SAR Mission Coordinator (IAMSAR Manual Volume 1). United States agreed to lead this revision.
- e. 4/27/4 - Germany - Guidance on the validity of MF and VHF radio communication equipment installed and used on ships
 - i. In order to avoid unnecessary updates to MF HF and VHF equipment it was agreed to amend the date for compliance in MSC.1/Circ. 1460/Rev.1 to 1 January 2024.
- f. 4/27/5 - IHO - Report on monitoring of ECDIS issues by the IHO PSC Vetting inspectors and ECDIS.
 - i. Following discussion the Sub-Committee decided not to take any further action.
- g. 4/27/6 and 6/Rev.1 - Argentine Republic - Report on the installation of Aids to Navigation on the Antarctic Continent
 - i. The Sub-Committee noted the information provided by Argentina.

Agenda item 28 - Consequential Work Related to the New Polar Code (5.2.1.15)

- a. 4/28 - Germany - Development of amendments to performance standards for navigation and communication equipment used in polar waters in support of the implementation of the Polar Code
 - i. This document provides information on work to be carried out in view of the development of amendments to performance standards for navigation and communication equipment used in polar waters in support of the implementation of the Polar Code. It proposes to include the following issues:

- Performance standard for gyro compasses
- Performance standard for ECDIS
- Performance standard for shipborne GPS and DGPS
- Performance standard for echo sounders
- Performance standard for magnetic compasses
- Performance standard for daylight signalling lamps and sound reception systems
- Performance standard for VDR
- General requirements for shipborne radio equipment forming part of the global maritime distress and safety system and for electronic navigational aids.

ii. IFSMA made an intervention as follows:

"IFSMA believes that in Paragraph 8 of the Document the inclusion of Integrated Navigation Systems (INS) should be considered because the various sub-systems may be less reliable in Polar areas, and the need to override and insert manual data may be pressing." The intervention to the Secretariat for inclusion in the Minutes. Intervention made Wed 10:50.

No performance standards exist at present, IACS urged that this is considered urgently and should be raised at MSC. Asked delegates to consider these performance standards. Polar Code already agreed.

iii. After consideration and noting the general support for the reconsideration of performance standards for navigation and communication equipment in support of the implementation of the Polar Code, the Sub-Committee established a Correspondence Group, under the coordination of Germany, with the following terms of reference:

1. develop a work plan listing all performance and test standards and requirements in need of revision in this respect, also taking into account the outcome of discussions at MSC 97, this session of the Sub-Committee, and MSC 98, as appropriate;
2. include the evaluation of specific additional conditions, as required, to consider when approving navigation and communication equipment to be used when navigating in polar waters;
3. consider interim solutions to address important matters, to assist Member States on short notice;
4. consider alternative ways to address the work, such as the development of a separate consolidated performance standard, development of add-ons to existing performance standards, or a resolution; and
5. submit a report to NCSR 5 for consideration.

The Sub-Committee invited MSC 98 to endorse the establishment of the Correspondence Group with the terms of reference as set out in paragraph 28.5 above

Agenda item 29 - Report to the Maritime Safety Committee

The Sub-Committee considered the draft report and the report of the Working and Drafting Groups and approved its submission to the Committee at MSC 98.

For more details and access to the original documents please refer to the IMO Documents Website:

<http://docs.imo.org>

IFSMA Members may apply to Headquarters for a user name and password to access this website.