Guidelines relating to the Implementation of SOLAS Chapter XI-2 and ISPS Code

To: Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters and Officers

Summary

This Note provides Guidance relating to the implementation of SOLAS Chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code approved by the Maritime Safety Committee at its 79th Session in December 2004.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) recognizing the need for addition information to assist SOLAS Contracting Governments and the industry with the implementation of and compliance with SOLAS Chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code, approved the Guidance relating to the implementation of SOLAS Chapter XI-2 and of the ISPS Code which is annexed to this Note.

2. The Guidance addresses a series of issues which have arisen, following the entry into force on 1 July 2004 of the special measures to enhance maritime security, as a result of the implementation or interpretation of the provisions of SOLAS Chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code.

3. The Guidance provides, among other specific advice, the following recommendations:

   i) the setting and responding to security levels;
   ii) Declarations of Security (DoS) should be used for exceptional cases usually related to a higher risk; and
   iii) port facility security plans should specifically include provisions for the admittance of legitimate visitors, such as Shipowners’ representatives, safety inspectors, auditors, maintenance and repair personnel along with representatives of seafarers welfare and labour organizations.
4. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, ship masters and officers of Hong Kong registered ships are advised to observe the Guidance.

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