Guidelines for Developing and Approving Procedures for Sampling, Testing and Controlling the Moisture Content for Solid Bulk Cargoes which may liquefy

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate the guidelines for developing and approving procedures for sampling, testing and controlling the moisture content for solid bulk cargoes which may liquefy.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) at its 92nd session in June 2013, approved the “Guidelines for developing and approving procedures for sampling, testing and controlling the moisture content for solid bulk cargoes which may liquefy” as annexed to IMO circular MSC.1/Circ.1454. These guidelines were developed to assist shippers in preparing procedures for sampling, testing and controlling moisture content as required by paragraph 4.3.3 of the IMSBC Code, as well as to assist the competent authorities of ports of loading when approving and checking implementation of such procedures.

2. The details of the guidelines can be found as attachment to this Note on the website of Marine Department (http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html).

3. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators and ship masters of Hong Kong registered ships are advised to note the Guidelines, taking into account the voluntary application date of 1 January 2014 of amendment 02-13 of the IMSBC Code pending its envisaged mandatory entry-into-force date of 1 January 2015.

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