



# 香 港 商 船 資 訊

## HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

### Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended and its Protocol of 1988

*To : Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters, Classification Societies and Shipbuilders*

#### *Summary*

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate IMO resolutions MSC.496(105) and MSC.497(105) and to advise the parties concerned of the amendments to Chapter II-1, III, IV, V and Appendix (Certificates) of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended ("SOLAS") and its Protocol of 1988 which will enter into force on 1 January 2024.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) at its 105<sup>th</sup> session adopted the resolutions MSC.496(105) and MSC.497(105) on 28 April 2022 to amend the SOLAS and its Protocol of 1988. The amendments will enter into force on 1 January 2024.
2. Significant amendments to Chapter II-1, III, IV, V and Appendix (Certificates) of SOLAS and its Protocol of 1988 are exhibited as follow, amongst others: -

<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Chapter/Part/Reg.</u>	<u>Matters of concern</u>
MSC.496(105)	II-1/D/42 and 43	Updating the references to MF/HF radio installation as a consequence of the amendment of a complete replacement text of Chapter IV of SOLAS
MSC.496(105)	III/B/6	The provisions for life-saving appliance communication equipment of regulation III/6.2 related to two-way VHF radiotelephone apparatus and search and rescue locating devices (SART) have been relocated from Chapter III to Chapter IV

<b><u>Resolution</u></b>	<b><u>Chapter/Part/Reg.</u></b>	<b><u>Matters of concern</u></b>
MSC.496(105)	IV/1-18	A complete replacement text of Chapter IV of SOLAS to finalize the work on modernization of the GMDSS and to enable the future use of modern communication systems in the GMDSS whilst removing obsolete requirements
MSC.496(105)	V/5 and 19-1	The existing footnote in sub-paragraph 5.2 is amended by updating the reference based on the amendments to Chapter IV. The paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2 of regulation V/19-1 are also updated the references to amended regulation IV/2 with respect to definitions for sea areas A1, A2, A3 and A4
MSC.496(105) and MSC.497(105)	Appendix (Certificates)	The relevant 1974 SOLAS and its Protocol of 1988 related certificates and the associated 'Records of Equipment', contained in the appendix, are updated as part of the consequential amendments

3. The details of IMO resolutions MSC.496(105) and MSC.497(105) can be found on the website of Marine Department (<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html>) as attachment to this Note.

4. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, ship masters, classification societies and shipbuilders of Hong Kong registered ships are required to take note of these amendments and act accordingly.

Marine Department  
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