



## 香港商船資訊

## HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

**Amendments to the International Life-Saving Appliance Code (LSA Code)**

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

***Summary***

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate IMO resolution MSC.485(103) and to advise the parties concerned of the amendments to the International Life-Saving Appliance (LSA) Code (LSA Code). The amendments to the LSA Code will enter into force on 1 January 2024.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), at its 103<sup>rd</sup> session (MSC 103), adopted, inter alia, resolution MSC.485(103) on 13 May 2021 to amend the LSA Code. The amendments will enter into force on 1 January 2024. However, as stipulated in circular MSC.8/Circ.2 which was approved at MSC 103, the amendment to paragraph 4.4.1.3.2 of LSA Code may be implemented earlier on a voluntary basis prior to the entry-into-force date of 1 January 2024.
2. Resolution MSC.485(103) introduces amendment to paragraph 4.4.1.3.2 (General requirements for lifeboats) of Chapter IV of the LSA Code and, in conjunction with the amendments to SOLAS Chapter III Regulation 33.2 stipulated in MSC.482(103), clarifies the general testing requirements for lifeboats such that free-fall lifeboats will not be subject to the requirement of demonstrating capability of launching while the ship is making headway at speeds up to 5 knots in calm water.
3. The details of the resolution MSC.485(103) with the pertinent IMO circular MSC.8/Circ.2 can be found on the website of Marine Department (<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html>) as attachments to this Note.

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

Marine Department  
Multi-lateral Policy Division

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