



Ref. T1/2.08

SLS.14/Circ.115/Add.1
2 February 1999

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974

Issue of Exemption Certificates under the 1974 SOLAS Convention and amendments thereto

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventieth session (7 to 11 December 1998), considered the issue and period of validity of Exemption Certificates with regard to ships carrying solid ore, coal, grain, unseasoned timber, non-combustible cargoes or cargoes which, in the opinion of the Administration, constitute a low fire risk.

2 The Committee agreed that there is a need to issue an Exemption Certificate to the ships in question, since the 1996 amendments to SOLAS regulation II-2/53, in particular new paragraph 1.3, provide in the last sentence that "When such exemptions are granted, the Administration shall issue an Exemption Certificate, irrespective of the date of construction of the ship concerned, in accordance with regulation I/12(a)(vi), and shall ensure that the list of cargoes the ship is permitted to carry is attached to the Exemption Certificate". The Committee further agreed that, with regard to the period of validity of the Exemption Certificate, the provisions of SOLAS regulation I/14(a) are clear in this respect in stating that such Certificates shall not be valid for longer than the period of the certificates to which they refer.

3 The Committee subsequently decided to amend circular SLS.14/Circ.115 and agreed that the following text should be inserted in the annex to the circular, under the subheading "Chapter II-2 (1974 SOLAS Convention/Amendments)", between "-/45.1.3(81)" and "-/60.4.2(81)":

"-/53.1.3(96)

Fire protection arrangements in cargo spaces".