



Treaty Series No.15 (1997)

# 1995 Amendments

to the International Convention for the  
Safety of Life at Sea, 1974  
(Resolution MSC 46(65))

(Adopted at the Conference of Contracting Parties of the  
International Maritime Organization on 16 May 1995)

[The Amendments entered into force on 1 January 1997]

*Presented to Parliament  
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs  
by Command of Her Majesty  
February 1997*

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ANNEX  
AMENDMENTS<sup>1</sup>  
TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974<sup>2</sup>

*Regulation V/8—Routeing*

The existing heading and text of the regulation are replaced by the following:

“Ship’s routeing

- (a) Ships’ routeing systems contribute to safety of life at sea, safety and efficiency of navigation, and/or protection of the marine environment. Ships’ routeing systems are recommended for use by, and may be made mandatory for, all ships, certain categories of ships or ships carrying certain cargoes, when adopted and implemented in accordance with the guidelines and criteria developed by the Organization.
- (b) The Organization is recognized as the only international body for developing guidelines, criteria and regulations on an international level for ships’ routeing systems. Contracting Governments shall refer proposals for the adoption of ships’ routeing systems to the Organization. The Organization will collate and disseminate to Contracting Governments all relevant information with regard to any adopted ships’ routeing systems.
- (c) This regulation, and its associated guidelines and criteria, does not apply to warships, naval auxiliary or other vessels owned or operated by a Contracting Government and used, for the time being, only on government non-commercial service; however, such ships are encouraged to participate in ships’ routeing systems adopted in accordance with this regulation.
- (d) The initiation of action for establishing a ships’ routeing system is the responsibility of the Government or Governments concerned. In developing such systems for adoption by the Organization, the guidelines and criteria developed by the Organization shall be taken into account.
- (e) Ships’ routeing systems should be submitted to the Organization for adoption. However, a Government or Governments implementing ships’ routeing systems not intended to be submitted to the Organization for adoption or which have not been adopted by the Organization are encouraged to follow, wherever possible, the guidelines and criteria developed by the Organization.
- (f) Where two or more Governments have a common interest in a particular area, they should formulate joint proposals for the delineation and use of a routeing system therein on the basis of an agreement between them. Upon receipt of such proposal and before proceeding with the consideration of it for adoption, the Organization shall ensure details of the proposal are disseminated to the Governments which have a common interest in the area, including countries in the vicinity of the proposed ships’ routeing system.
- (g) Contracting Governments shall adhere to the measures adopted by the Organization concerning ships’ routeing. They shall promulgate all information necessary for the safe and effective use of adopted ships’ routeing systems. A Government or Governments concerned may monitor traffic in those systems. Contracting Governments will do everything in their power to secure the appropriate use of ships’ routeing systems adopted by the Organization.
- (h) A ship shall use a mandatory ships’ routeing system adopted by the Organization as required for its category or cargo carried and in accordance with the relevant provisions in force unless there are compelling reasons not to use a particular ships’ routeing system. Any such reason shall be recorded in the ship’s log.

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<sup>1</sup>Adopted at the Sixty-Fifth Session of the Maritime Safety Committee by Resolution No. MSC 46(65) of 16 May 1995.  
<sup>2</sup>Treaty Series No. 46 (1980), Cmnd. 7874.

- (i) Mandatory ships' routing systems shall be reviewed by the Contracting Government or Governments concerned in accordance with the guidelines and criteria developed by the Organization.
- (j) All adopted ships' routing systems and actions taken to enforce compliance with those systems shall be consistent with international law, including the relevant provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- (k) Nothing in this regulation nor its associated guidelines and criteria shall prejudice the rights and duties of Governments under international law or the legal regime of international straits."

