

---

4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT  
LONDON SE1 7SR  
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

Ref. T2-OSS/2.6

SAR.7/Circ.10  
17 June 2011

**LIST OF IMO DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS WHICH SHOULD BE HELD BY A  
MARITIME RESCUE COORDINATION CENTRE (MRCC)\***

1 The Sub-Committee on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue (COMSAR), at its fifteenth session (7 to 11 March 2011), taking into account the outcome of the eighty-sixth, eighty-seventh and eighty-eighth sessions of the Maritime Safety Committee and the twenty-sixth Assembly, updated the annexed List of IMO documents and publications, previously issued as SAR.7/Circ.9, which are considered essential for use by Maritime Rescue Coordination Centres.

2 Member Governments are invited to bring the updated list, given in the annex, to the attention of MRCC personnel.

3 This circular revokes SAR.7/Circ.9.

\*\*\*

---

\* This circular is also available in English, French and Spanish on the IMO website.



**ANNEX****LIST OF IMO DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS WHICH SHOULD BE HELD  
BY A MARITIME RESCUE COORDINATION CENTRE**

This circular, which is published following the instructions by the Sub-Committee on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue, provides maritime rescue coordination centres (MRCC), solely for their operational purposes, with a minimum list of IMO documents which are essential for such centres to have in their possession.

The list has been kept to a minimum. It only covers search and rescue and not other tasks which MRCCs are often required to perform. Thus documents concerning the world-wide navigational warning system are only mentioned to the extent that access to the system is essential in the context of some SAR operations.

National Authorities responsible for search and rescue may, of course, add to this list to improve centres' documentation. Governments may replace the documents and publications listed below by national equivalent documents and publications. It is also up to them to decide, depending on the degree of autonomy of maritime rescue sub-centres, whether some documents on the list need not be provided to them.

- \* Indicates that the document may not be useful for MRCCs whose search and rescue region (SRR) is entirely in a GMDSS sea area A1 and/or A2.
- \*\* Indicates that the document is only essential if the MRCC covers an area where the NAVTEX service exists or may be introduced.

REFERENCE	DATE	TITLE
<b>1 Publications</b>		
IE-110 A/C/E/F/R/S	2009	International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) (Consolidated Edition, 2009)
IB-955 A/C/E/F/R/S	2006	SAR Convention (2006 edition)
IG-960 E/F/S	2010	International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual Volume I (2010 edition) – Organization and Management
ID-961 E/F/S	2010	International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual Volume II (2010 edition) – Mission Coordination
IG-962 E/F/S	2010	International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual Volume III (2010 edition) – Mobile Facilities
ID-970 E	2009	GMDSS MANUAL (2009 edition)
I-969 E		GMDSS Operating Guidance Card (1992 edition)
IA-987 E/F/S	2002	IMO Standard Marine Communication Phrases (SMCP) – (including CD-ROM: pronunciation guide) (2002 edition)
IC-951 E/F/S	2005	** NAVTEX Manual (2005 edition)
IA-910 E/F/S	2003	* International SafetyNET Manual (2003 edition)
I-910 M	2010	Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety Information (MSI) (2010 edition)

REFERENCE	DATE	TITLE
IA-994 E/F/S	2005	International Code of Signals (2005 edition)
IH-200 E/F/S	2010	International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code) (2010 edition) (incorporating amendment 35-10)
IH-210 E/F/S	2010	IMDG Code Supplement (2010 edition)
<b>2 Unpublished documents</b>		
Res. A.705(17), as amended (MSC.1/Circ.1287)	06/11/91	Promulgation of Maritime Safety Information (MSI)
Res. A.706(17), as amended (MSC.1/Circ.1288)	06/11/91	World-Wide Navigational Warning Service
Res. A.814(19)	23/11/95	Guidelines for the Avoidance of False Distress Alerts
Res. A.855(20)	27/11/97	Standards for on-board helicopter facilities
Res. A.856(20)	27/11/97	Guidance to Administrations on development of a shore-based SAR telecommunication infrastructure
Res. A.887(21)	25/11/99	Establishment, updating and retrieval of the information contained in the registration databases for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)
Res. A.894(21)	25/11/99	International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual
Res. A.919(22)	29/11/01	Acceptance and implementation of the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979, as amended
Res. A.920(22)	29/11/01	Review of safety measures and procedures for the treatment of persons rescued at sea
Res. A.949(23)	05/12/03	Guidelines on places of refuge for ships in need of assistance
Res. A.950(23)	05/12/03	Maritime Assistance Services (MAS)
Res. A.954(23)	05/12/03	Proper use of VHF channels at sea
Res. A.999(25)	29/11/07	Guidelines on voyage planning for passenger ships operating in remote areas
Res. A.1001(25)	29/11/07	Criteria for the provision of mobile-satellite communication systems in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)
Res. A.1002(25)	29/11/07	Piracy and armed robbery against ships in waters off the coast of Somalia
Res. MSC.131(75)	21/05/02	Maintenance of a continuous listening watch on VHF channel 16 by SOLAS ships whilst at sea after 1 February 1999 and installation of VHF DSC facilities on non-SOLAS ships
Res. MSC.167(78)	20/05/04	Guidelines on the treatment of persons rescued at sea

REFERENCE	DATE	TITLE
Res. MSC.199(80)	16/05/05	Adoption of amendments to provision of radio services for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety system (GMDSS) – (Resolution A.801(19))
Res. MSC.239(83)	12/10/07	Adoption of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended (relating to GMDSS satellite providers)
Res. MSC.305(87)	17/05/10	Guidelines on Operational Procedures for the promulgation of Maritime Safety Information concerning acts of Piracy and Piracy counter-measure operations
COMSAR/Circ.3	19/04/96	Relations between NAVAREA Coordinators and Rescue Coordination Centres
COMSAR/Circ.13	06/03/98	Shore-to-ship communications during a distress
COMSAR/Circ.22	20/06/00	Guidance on data fields for SAR databases
COMSAR/Circ.23	20/06/00	Guidance for central alerting posts (CAPs)
COMSAR/Circ.25	15/03/01	Procedure for responding to DSC distress alerts by ships
COMSAR/Circ.28	12/06/01	International NAVTEX service
COMSAR/Circ.29	27/05/02	Guidance for the voluntary use of the standardized questionnaires and formats for reporting false alerts in collecting data on false alerts
COMSAR/Circ.31	06/02/03	Guidance for Mass Rescue Operations (MROs)
COMSAR/Circ.33	26/02/04	GMDSS Coast Station Operator's Certificate (CSOC) Model Course
COMSAR/Circ.34	21/05/04	Clarification on the use of NAVTEX B <sub>3</sub> B <sub>4</sub> characters = 00 and NAVTEX service areas
COMSAR/Circ.35	21/05/04	Recommendations on medium frequency/high frequency (MF/HF) digital selective calling (DSC) test calls to coast stations
COMSAR/Circ.36	18/02/05	Broadcast of warnings for Tsunamis and other natural disasters
COMSAR/Circ.37	28/02/05	Guidance on minimum communication needs of Maritime Rescue Coordination Centres (MRCCs)
COMSAR.1/Circ.41	26/10/07	Analysis of Maritime Safety Information Promulgated via the EGC SafetyNET system and recommendations on improving its quality
COMSAR.1/Circ.45	04/02/09	Guidance on distress alerts
COMSAR.1/Circ.52	17/03/10	Questionnaire on the availability of SAR Services
COMSAR.1/Circ.53	07/01/11	List of Land Earth Station (LES) Operation Coordinators in the Inmarsat System
COMSAR.1/Circ.50/Rev.1	16/03/11	* Distress priority communications for RCC from shore-to-ship via Inmarsat
COMSAR.1/Circ.51/Rev.1	18/03/11	List of NAVAREA Coordinators

REFERENCE	DATE	TITLE
MSC/Circ.805	06/06/97	Guidance for the use of radio signals by ships under attack or threat of attack from pirates or armed robbers
MSC/Circ.895	04/02/99	Recommendation on helicopter landing areas on ro-ro passenger ships
MSC/Circ.896/Rev.1	12/06/01	Interim measures for combating unsafe practices associated with the trafficking or transport of migrants by sea
MSC/Circ.960	20/06/00	Medical assistance at sea
MSC/Circ.1042	28/05/02	List of contents of the "Emergency Medical Kit/Bag" and medical consideration for its use on ro-ro passenger ships not normally carrying a medical doctor
MSC/Circ.1043	31/05/02	Guidance on ships' daily reporting of their positions to their companies
MSC/Circ.1073	10/06/03	Measures to enhance maritime security – Revised directive for maritime rescue coordination centres (MRCCs)
MSC/Circ.1078	06/06/03	Guidelines to Administrations on reporting false alerts
MSC/Circ.1079	10/07/03	Guidelines for preparing plans for co-operation between search and rescue services and passenger ships (in accordance with SOLAS regulation V/7.3)
MSC/Circ.1105	25/02/04	Guidance on responsibility and liability issues related to the use of the emergency medical kit/bag and evaluation of its use in emergency incidents
MSC/Circ.1172	23/05/05	Identification of passenger ships, other than ro-ro passenger ships, which should benefit from being equipped with the Emergency Medical Kit/Bag (EMK)
MSC.1/Circ.1174***	20/05/05	Basic safety guidance for oceanic voyages by non-regulated craft
MSC.1/Circ.1182	31/05/06	Guide to recovery techniques
MSC.1/Circ.1185	31/05/06	Guide for cold water survival
MSC.1/Circ.1183	31/05/06	Guidelines on the provision of external support as an aid to incident containment for SAR Authorities and others concerned
MSC.1/Circ.1184	31/05/06	Enhanced contingency planning guidance for passenger ships operating in areas remote from SAR facilities
MSC.1/Circ.1186	01/06/06	Guidelines on the training of SAR service personnel working in major incidents
MSC.1/Circ.1208	22/05/06	Promoting and verifying continued familiarization of GMDSS operators on board ships
MSC.1/Circ.1210	11/07/06	Cospas-Sarsat International 406 MHz Beacon Registration Database

REFERENCE	DATE	TITLE
MSC.1/Circ.1218	15/12/06	Guidance on exchange of medical information between telemedical assistance services (TMAS) involved in international SAR operations
MSC.1/Circ.1248	16/10/07	Minimizing delays in search and rescue response to distress alerts
MSC.1/Circ.1287	09/12/08	Amendments to resolution A.705(17) – Promulgation of Maritime Safety Information
MSC.1/Circ.1288	09/12/08	Amendments to resolution A.706(17) – World-Wide Navigational Warning Service
MSC.1/Circ.1308	09/06/09	Guidance to search and rescue services in relation to requesting and receiving LRIT information
MSC.1/Circ.1333	26/06/09	Recommendations to Governments for preventing and suppressing piracy and armed robbery against ships
MSC.1/Circ.1334	23/06/09	Guidance to shipowners and ship operators, shipmasters and crews on preventing and suppressing acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships
MSC.1/Circ.1364	24/05/10	Revised International SafetyNET Manual
MSC.1/Circ.1365	24/05/10	Commercially available locating, tracking and emergency notification devices
MSC.1/Circ.1366*	24/05/10	Medical assistance at sea – Yacht racing
MSC.1/Circ.1367	24/05/10	Adoption of amendments to the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual
MSC.1/Circ.1382	03/12/10	Questionnaire on the availability of shore-based facilities in the GMDSS
GMDSS.1/Circ.13	23/05/11	Master Plan of shore-based facilities for the GMDSS (GMDSS Master Plan)
SAR.8/Circ.3	17/06/11	Global SAR Plan containing information on the current availability of SAR services
SAR.7/Circ.10	17/06/11	List of IMO documents which should be held by an MRCC
<b>3 Non-IMO documents</b>		
Cospas-Sarsat – C/S G.007	October 08	Handbook on Distress Alert Messages for RCCs, SPOCs and IMO Ship Security Competent Authorities (issue 1)
ARNP		Air Regional Navigation Plans (ARNP)
Admiralty List of Radio Signals Vol. 5 (ALRS)		

\*\*\* A draft MSC Circular on "Basic safety guidance for yacht races or oceanic voyages by non-regulated craft" has been developed which, if approved, will revoke Circulars MSC.1/Circs. 1174 and 1366.