

## **1974 SOLAS Convention, as amended**

### **Regulation V/10**

#### ***Ships' routing***

**1** Ships' routing systems contribute to safety of life at sea, safety and efficiency of navigation and/or protection of the marine environment. Ships' routing 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.<sup>1</sup>

**2** The Organization is recognized as the only international body for developing guidelines, criteria and regulations on an international level for ships' routing systems. Contracting Governments shall refer proposals for the adoption of ships' routing systems to the Organization. The Organization will collate and disseminate to Contracting Governments all relevant information with regard to any adopted ships' routing systems.

**3** The initiation of action for establishing a ships' routing 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<sup>1</sup> shall be taken into account.

**4** Ships' routing systems should be submitted to the Organization for adoption. However, a Government or Governments implementing ships' routing systems not intended to be submitted to the Organization for adoption or which have not been adopted by the Organization are encouraged to take into account, wherever possible, the guidelines and criteria developed by the Organization.<sup>1</sup>

**5** 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 routing system therein on the basis of an agreement between them. Upon receipt of such proposal and before proceeding with consideration of it for adoption, the Organization shall ensure that 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' routing system.

**6** Contracting Governments shall adhere to the measures adopted by the Organization concerning ships' routing. They shall promulgate all information necessary for the safe and effective use of adopted ships' routing systems. A Government or Governments concerned may monitor traffic in those systems. Contracting Governments shall do everything in their power to secure the appropriate use of ships' routing systems adopted by the Organization.

**7** A ship shall use a mandatory ships' routing 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' routing system. Any such reason shall be recorded in the ships' log.

**8** 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.<sup>1</sup>

**9** 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.

**10** Nothing in this regulation nor its associated guidelines and criteria shall prejudice the rights and duties of Governments under international law or the legal regimes of straits used for international navigation and archipelagic sea lanes.

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to the General provisions on ships' routing adopted by the Organization by resolution A.572(14), as amended.

## **Regulation V/11**

### *Ship reporting systems<sup>2</sup>*

**1** Ship reporting systems contribute to safety of life at sea, safety and efficiency of navigation and/or protection of the marine environment. A ship reporting system, when adopted and implemented in accordance with the guidelines and criteria developed by the Organization<sup>173</sup> pursuant to this regulation, shall be used by all ships or certain categories of ships or ships carrying certain cargoes in accordance with the provisions of each system so adopted.

**2** The Organization is recognized as the only international body for developing guidelines, criteria and regulations on an international level for ship reporting systems. Contracting Governments shall refer proposals for the adoption of ship reporting systems to the Organization. The Organization will collate and disseminate to Contracting Governments all relevant information with regard to any adopted ship reporting system.

**3** The initiation of action for establishing a ship reporting system is the responsibility of the Government or Governments concerned. In developing such systems, provision of the guidelines and criteria developed by the Organization<sup>3</sup> shall be taken into account.

**4** Ship reporting systems not submitted to the Organization for adoption do not necessarily need to comply with this regulation. However, Governments implementing such systems are encouraged to follow, wherever possible, the guidelines and criteria developed by the Organization.<sup>3</sup> Contracting Governments may submit such systems to the Organization for recognition.

**5** Where two or more Governments have a common interest in a particular area, they should formulate proposals for a co-ordinated ship reporting system on the basis of agreement between them. Before proceeding with a proposal for adoption of a ship reporting system, the Organization shall disseminate details of the proposal to those Governments which have a common interest in the area covered by the proposed system. Where a co-ordinated ship reporting system is adopted and established, it shall have uniform procedures and operations.

**6** After adoption of a ship reporting system in accordance with this regulation, the Government or Governments concerned shall take all measures necessary for the promulgation of any information needed for the efficient and effective use of the system. Any adopted ship reporting system shall have the capability of interaction and the ability to assist ships with information when necessary. Such systems shall be operated in accordance with the guidelines and criteria developed by the Organization<sup>3</sup> pursuant to this regulation.

**7** The master of a ship shall comply with the requirements of adopted ship reporting systems and report to the appropriate authority all information required in accordance with the provisions of each such system.

**8** All adopted ship reporting systems and actions taken to enforce compliance with those systems shall be consistent with international law, including the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

**9** Nothing in this regulation or its associated guidelines and criteria shall prejudice the rights and duties of Governments under international law or the legal regimes of straits used for international navigation and archipelagic sea lanes.

**10** The participation of ships in accordance with the provisions of adopted ship reporting systems shall be free of charge to the ships concerned.

**11** The Organization shall ensure that adopted ship reporting systems are reviewed under the guidelines and criteria developed by the Organization.

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<sup>2</sup> This regulation does not address ship reporting systems established by Governments for search and rescue purposes, which are covered by chapter 5 of the 1979 SAR Convention, as amended.

<sup>3</sup> Refer to the Guidelines and criteria adopted by the Maritime Safety Committee of the Organization by resolution MSC.43(64), as amended by resolution MSC.111(73). Refer also to the General principles for ship reporting systems and ship reporting requirements, including guidelines for reporting incidents involving dangerous goods, harmful substances and/or marine pollutants, adopted by the Organization by resolution A.851(20).