Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Council

The following amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Council with regard to the voting procedure for the election of the Secretary-General were agreed at the one hundred and fifth session of the Council held at IMO Headquarters from 1 to 5 November 2010.

1) On page 64, Rule 37, replace the words “ensuing meeting” with the following:

“first suitable subsequent opportunity during the same session of the Council”,

so that the amended text reads as follows:

“Rule 37

If one person only is to be elected and no candidate obtains a majority in the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken confined normally to the two candidates obtaining the largest number of votes. If in the second ballot the votes are equally divided, the election shall be deferred until the first suitable subsequent opportunity during the same session of the Council, when, if another tie results, the Chairman shall decide between the candidates by drawing lots.”
2) After Rule 37, add new Rules 37bis and 37ter as follows:

“Rule 37bis

In the event of four or more candidates standing for the position of Secretary-General, if, in the first and subsequent ballots, no candidate obtains a majority in accordance with Rule 37, a number of successive ballots shall be held, in each of which the candidate who received the least number of votes in the previous ballot shall not be included in the list of candidates for the subsequent ballot.

Rule 37ter

In cases where two or more candidates gain the same number of votes in joint lowest position, a run-off ballot shall be held between them and the candidate gaining the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated from subsequent ballots.”