



Treaty Series No. 6 (2020)

# Amendments

to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974  
(SOLAS 1974)

Resolution MSC.256(84) adopted on 16 May 2008  
Resolution MSC.272(85) adopted on 4 December 2008  
Resolution MSC.293(87) adopted on 21 May 2010  
Resolution MSC.317(89) adopted on 20 May 2011

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Resolution MSC.256(84) – 1 January 2010  
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Resolution MSC.293(87) – 1 January 2012  
Resolution MSC.317(89) – 1 January 2013]

*Presented to Parliament  
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs  
by Command of Her Majesty  
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## ANNEX 2

### **RESOLUTION MSC.256(84) (adopted on 16 May 2008)**

#### **ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974, AS AMENDED**

THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE,

RECALLING Article 28(b) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Committee,

RECALLING FURTHER article VIII(b) of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974 (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”), concerning the amendment procedure applicable to the Annex to the Convention, other than to the provisions of chapter I thereof,

HAVING CONSIDERED, at its eighty-fourth session, amendments to the Convention, proposed and circulated in accordance with article VIII(b)(i) thereof,

1. ADOPTS, in accordance with article VIII(b)(iv) of the Convention, amendments to the Convention, the text of which is set out in the Annex to the present resolution;
2. DETERMINES, in accordance with article VIII(b)(vi)(2)(bb) of the Convention, that the said amendments shall be deemed to have been accepted on 1 July 2009, unless, prior to that date, more than one third of the Contracting Governments to the Convention or Contracting Governments the combined merchant fleets of which constitute not less than 50% of the gross tonnage of the world’s merchant fleet, have notified their objections to the amendments;
3. INVITES SOLAS Contracting Governments to note that, in accordance with article VIII(b)(vii)(2) of the Convention, the amendments shall enter into force on 1 January 2010 upon their acceptance in accordance with paragraph 2 above;
4. RECOMMENDS the Contracting Governments concerned to issue certificates complying with the annexed amendments at the first renewal survey on or after 1 January 2010;
5. REQUESTS the Secretary-General, in conformity with article VIII(b)(v) of the Convention, to transmit certified copies of the present resolution and the text of the amendments contained in the annex to all Contracting Governments to the Convention;

6. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General to transmit copies of this resolution and its Annex to Members of the Organization, which are not Contracting Governments to the Convention.

## ANNEX

### AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974, AS AMENDED

#### CHAPTER III

#### LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES AND ARRANGEMENTS

##### **Regulation 6 – Communications**

3 The existing paragraph 2.2 is replaced by the following:

##### **“2.2 Search and rescue locating devices**

At least one search and rescue locating device shall be carried on each side of every passenger ship and of every cargo ship of 500 gross tonnage and upwards. At least one search and rescue locating device shall be carried on every cargo ship of 300 gross tonnage and upwards but less than 500 gross tonnage. Such search and rescue locating devices shall conform to the applicable performance standards not inferior to those adopted by the Organization<sup>\*</sup>. The search and rescue locating devices<sup>\*\*</sup> shall be stowed in such location that they can be rapidly placed in any survival craft other than the liferaft or liferafts required by regulation 31.1.4. Alternatively one search and rescue locating device shall be stowed in each survival craft other than those required by regulation 31.1.4. On ships carrying at least two search and rescue locating devices and equipped with free-fall lifeboats one of the search and rescue locating devices shall be stowed in a free-fall lifeboat and the other located in the immediate vicinity of the navigation bridge so that it can be utilized on board and ready for transfer to any of the other survival craft.”

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\* Refer to the Recommendation on performance standards for survival craft radar transponders for use in search and rescue operations, adopted by the Organization by resolution MSC.247(83) (A.802(19)), as amended) and the Recommendation on performance standards for survival craft AIS Search and Rescue transmitter (AIS SART), adopted by the Organization by resolution MSC.246(83).

\*\* One of these search and rescue locating devices may be the search and rescue locating device required by regulation IV/7.1.3.

##### **Regulation 26 – Additional requirements for ro-ro passenger ships**

4 The existing paragraph 2.5 is replaced by the following:

“2.5 Liferafts carried on ro-ro passenger ships shall be fitted with a search and rescue locating device in the ratio of one search and rescue locating device for every four liferafts. The search and rescue locating device shall be mounted inside the liferaft so its antenna is more than one metre above the sea level when the liferaft is deployed, except that for canopied reversible liferafts the search and rescue locating device shall be so arranged as to be readily accessed and erected by survivors. Each search and rescue locating device shall be arranged to be manually erected when the liferaft is deployed. Containers of liferafts fitted with search and rescue locating devices shall be clearly marked.”

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ANNEX 7

**RESOLUTION MSC.272(85)  
(adopted on 4 December 2008)**

**ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL LIFE-  
SAVING APPLIANCE (LSA) CODE**

THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE,

RECALLING Article 28(b) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Committee,

NOTING resolution MSC.48(66), by which it adopted the International Life-Saving Appliance Code (hereinafter referred to as "the LSA Code"), which has become mandatory under chapter III of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention"),

NOTING ALSO article VIII(b) and regulation III/3.10 of the Convention concerning the procedure for amending the LSA Code,

HAVING CONSIDERED, at its [eighty-fifth] session, amendments to the LSA Code, proposed and circulated in accordance with article VIII(b)(i) of the Convention,

1. ADOPTS, in accordance with article VIII(b)(iv) of the Convention, amendments to the LSA Code, the text of which is set out in the Annex to the present resolution;
2. DETERMINES, in accordance with article VIII(b)(vi)(2)(bb) of the Convention, that the amendments shall be deemed to have been accepted on 1 January 2010 unless, prior to that date, more than one third of the Contracting Governments to the Convention or Contracting Governments the combined merchant fleets of which constitute not less than 50% of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant fleet, have notified their objections to the amendments;
3. INVITES Contracting Governments to note that, in accordance with article VIII(b)(vii)(2) of the Convention, the amendments shall enter into force on 1 July 2010 upon their acceptance in accordance with paragraph 2 above;
4. REQUESTS the Secretary-General, in conformity with article VIII(b)(v) of the Convention, to transmit certified copies of the present resolution and the text of the amendments contained in the Annex to all Contracting Governments to the Convention;
5. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General to transmit copies of this resolution and its Annex to Members of the Organization, which are not Contracting Governments to the Convention.

## ANNEX

### AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCE (LSA) CODE

#### CHAPTER IV

#### SURVIVAL CRAFT

##### 4.4 General requirements for lifeboats

1. In subparagraph .1 of paragraph 4.4.2.2, the words "(for a lifeboat intended for a passenger ship) or 82.5 kg (for a lifeboat intended for a cargo ship)" are inserted after the words "75 kg".
2. The existing paragraph 4.4.9.1 is replaced by the following:

"4.4.9.1 The number(s) of persons for which the lifeboat is approved, for passenger ships and/or cargo ships, as applicable, shall be clearly marked on it in clear permanent characters."

##### 4.7 Free-fall lifeboats

3. The existing paragraph 4.7.2 is replaced by the following:

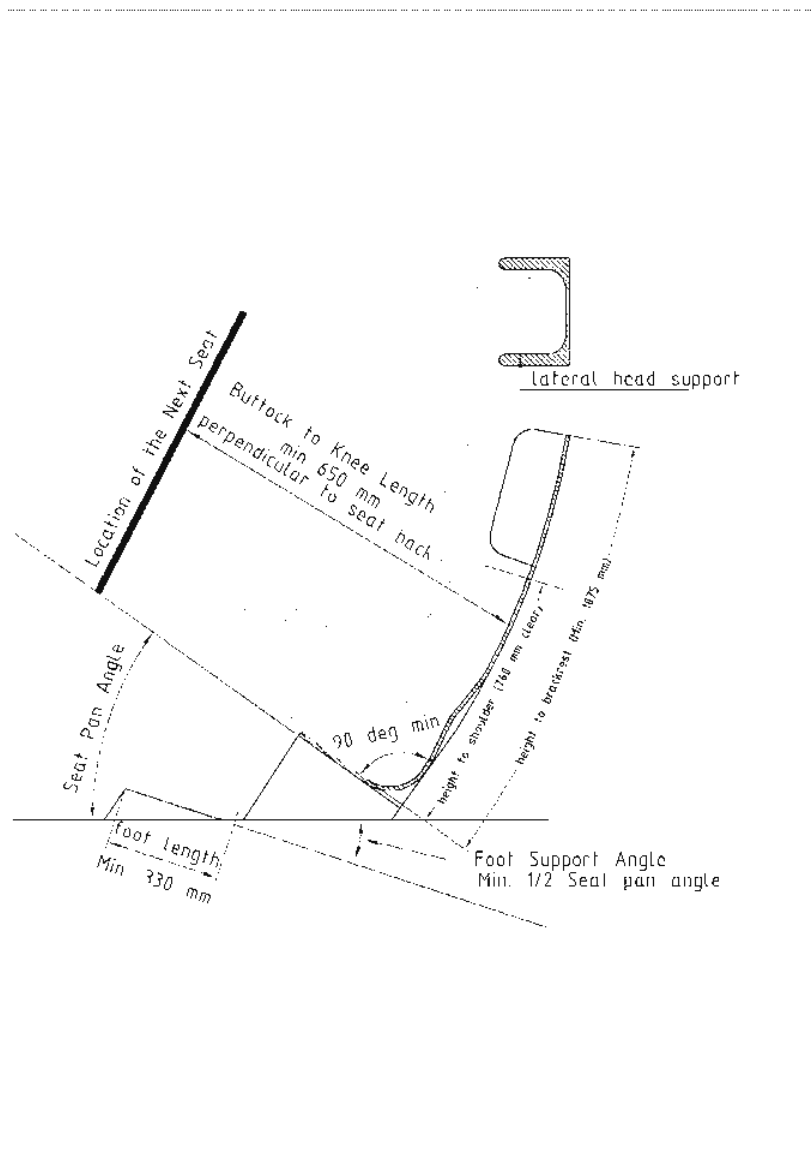
###### *"4.7.2 Carrying capacity of a free-fall lifeboat*

4.7.2.1 The carrying capacity of a free-fall lifeboat is the number of persons having an average mass of 82.5 kg that can be provided with a seat without interfering with the means of propulsion or the operation of any of the lifeboat's equipment. The seating surface shall be smooth and shaped and provided with cushioning of at least 10 mm over all contact areas to provide support for the back and pelvis and flexible lateral side support for the head. The seats shall be of the non-folding type, permanently secured to the lifeboat and arranged so that any deflection of the hull or canopy during launching will not cause injury to the occupants. The location and structure of the seat shall be arranged to preclude the potential for injury during launch if the seat is narrower than the occupant's shoulders. The passage between the seats shall have a clear width of at least 480 mm from the deck to the top of the seats, be free of any obstruction and provided with an antislip surface with suitable footholds to allow safe embarkation in the ready-to-launch position. Each seat shall be provided with a suitable locking harness capable of quick release under tension to restrain the body of the occupant during launching.

4.7.2.2 The angle between the seat pan and the seat back shall be at least 90°. The width of the seat pan shall be at least 480 mm. Free clearance in front of the backrest (buttock to knee length) shall be at least 650 mm



measured at an angle of  $90^{\circ}$  to the backrest. The backrest shall extend at least 1,075 mm above the seat pan. The seat shall provide for shoulder height, measured along the seat back, of at least 760 mm. The footrest shall be oriented at not less than half of the angle of the seat pan and shall have a foot length of at least 330 mm (see figure 2).



**Figure 2"**

## CHAPTER V

### RESCUE BOATS

#### 5.1 Rescue boats

1. In the first sentence of paragraph 5.1.1.1, the words ", except that, for all rescue boats, an average mass of 82.5 kg shall apply to paragraph 4.4.2.2.1" are added after the reference to "4.4.9".

2. In the second sentence of paragraph 5.1.3.5, the words "75 kg" are replaced by the words "82.5 kg".

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**ANNEX 7**

**RESOLUTION MSC.293(87)  
(adopted on 21 May 2010)**

**ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL LIFE-  
SAVING APPLIANCE (LSA) CODE**

THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE,

RECALLING Article 28(b) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Committee,

NOTING resolution MSC.48(66), by which it adopted the International Life-Saving Appliance Code (hereinafter referred to as "the LSA Code"), which has become mandatory under chapter III of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention"),

NOTING ALSO article VIII(b) and regulation III/3.10 of the Convention concerning the procedure for amending the LSA Code,

HAVING CONSIDERED, at its eighty-seventh session, amendments to the LSA Code, proposed and circulated in accordance with article VIII(b)(i) of the Convention,

1. ADOPTS, in accordance with article VIII(b)(iv) of the Convention, amendments to the LSA Code, the text of which is set out in the Annex to the present resolution;
2. DETERMINES, in accordance with article VIII(b)(vi)(2)(bb) of the Convention, that the amendments shall be deemed to have been accepted on 1 July 2011, unless prior to that date, more than one third of the Contracting Governments to the Convention or Contracting Governments the combined merchant fleets of which constitute not less than 50% of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant fleet, have notified their objections to the amendments;
3. INVITES Contracting Governments to note that, in accordance with article VIII(b)(vii)(2) of the Convention, the amendments shall enter into force on 1 January 2012 upon their acceptance in accordance with paragraph 2 above;
4. REQUESTS the Secretary-General, in conformity with article VIII(b)(v) of the Convention, to transmit certified copies of the present resolution and the text of the amendments contained in the Annex to all Contracting Governments to the Convention;

5. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General to transmit copies of this resolution and its Annex to Members of the Organization, which are not Contracting Governments to the Convention.

ANNEX

**AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL LIFE-SAVING  
APPLIANCE (LSA) CODE**

CHAPTER IV

**SURVIVAL CRAFT**

In paragraphs 4.2.2.1, 4.2.3.3 and 4.3.3.3, the figure "75 kg" is replaced by the figure "82.5 kg".

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**ANNEX 1**

**RESOLUTION MSC.317(89)  
(adopted on 20 May 2011)**

**ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL  
CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974, AS  
AMENDED**

THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE,

RECALLING Article 28(b) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Committee,

RECALLING FURTHER article VIII(b) of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974 (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention"), concerning the amendment procedure applicable to the Annex to the Convention, other than to the provisions of chapter I thereof,

HAVING CONSIDERED, at its eighty-ninth session, amendments to the Convention, proposed and circulated in accordance with article VIII(b)(i) thereof,

1. ADOPTS, in accordance with article VIII(b)(iv) of the Convention, amendments to the Convention, the text of which is set out in the Annex to the present resolution;
2. DETERMINES, in accordance with article VIII(b)(vi)(2)(bb) of the Convention, that the said amendments shall be deemed to have been accepted on 1 July 2012, unless, prior to that date, more than one third of the Contracting Governments to the Convention or Contracting Governments the combined merchant fleets of which constitute not less than 50% of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant fleet, have notified their objections to the amendments;
3. INVITES SOLAS Contracting Governments to note that, in accordance with article VIII(b)(vii)(2) of the Convention, the amendments shall enter into force on 1 January 2013 upon their acceptance in accordance with paragraph 2 above;
4. REQUESTS the Secretary-General, in conformity with article VIII(b)(v) of the Convention, to transmit certified copies of the present resolution and the text of the amendments contained in the Annex to all Contracting Governments to the Convention;
5. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General to transmit copies of this resolution and its Annex to Members of the Organization which are not Contracting Governments to the Convention.

ANNEX

**AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE  
SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974, AS AMENDED**

CHAPTER III

**LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES AND ARRANGEMENTS**

**Regulation 1 – Application**

The following new paragraph 5 is added after the existing paragraph 4:

"5 Notwithstanding paragraph 4.2, for all ships, not later than the first scheduled dry-docking after 1 July 2014, but not later than 1 July 2019, lifeboat on-load release mechanisms not complying with paragraphs 4.4.7.6.4 to 4.4.7.6.6 of the Code shall be replaced with equipment that complies with the Code.\*

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\* Refer to the Guidelines for evaluation and replacement of lifeboat release and retrieval systems (MSC.1/Circ.1392)."

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