

Dated: May 5, 2003.

Michael L. Barrera,

National Ombudsman.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4188]

Shipping Coordinating Committee; Notice of Meeting

The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct a joint, open meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 22, 2003, at the Island Grand Beach Resort and Conference Center; 5600 Gulf Boulevard, St. Pete Beach, Florida. The meeting will be held in connection with the Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services (RTCM) 2003 Annual Assembly Meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to review the outcome of the Seventh Session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Subcommittee on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue (COMSAR), that occurred in January 13-17, 2003, at IMO headquarters in London, England. Additionally, the meeting is to prepare for the 49th session of the IMO Subcommittee on Safety of Navigation (NAV 49), which is scheduled for June 30-July 4, 2003, at the IMO Headquarters in London.

Items of principal interest on the COMSAR agenda are:

- Maritime Safety Information for GMDSS;
- Development of a procedure for recognition of mobile satellite systems;
- Revision of performance standards for NAVTEX equipment;
- Emergency radiocommunications, including false alerts and interference;
- Large passenger ship safety;
- Issues related to maritime security;
- Developments in maritime radiocommunication systems and technology, including long-range tracking;
- Matters concerning Search & Rescue;
- Planning for the 8th session of COMSAR.

Items of principal interest on the NAV 49 agenda are:

- Routing of ships, ship reporting and related matters;
- Requirements for the display and use of Automatic Identification System (AIS) information on shipborne navigational displays;
- Places of refuge;
- Anchoring, mooring and towing equipment;
- Revision of performance standards for radar reflectors;

- Review of performance standards for radar equipment;
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU) matters, including Radiocommunication ITU-R Study Group 8 matters;
- Large passenger ship safety: Effective voyage planning for large passenger ships;
- Measures to enhance maritime security;
- World-wide radionavigation system;
- Casualty analysis;
- Guidance on early abandonment for bulk carriers.

Members of the public may attend these meetings up to the seating capacity of the rooms. Interested persons may seek information, including meeting room numbers, by writing; Mr. Russell S. Levin, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Commandant (G-SCT-2), Room 6509, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001, by calling: (202) 267-1389, or by sending Internet electronic mail to rlevin@comdt.uscg.mil.

Information for the RTCM meeting can be found at <https://www.rtcn.org/index2.html>.

Dated: May 1, 2003.

Frederick J. Kenney,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee, Department of State.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4307]

Shipping Coordinating Committee; Notice of Meeting

The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct an open meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 20, 2003, in Room 2415, at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC. The purpose of the meeting is for members of the SHC to discuss and decide upon changes to the SHC charter regarding SHC subcommittee structure. The proposed change to the subcommittee structure is described below.

The SHC has presently established six subcommittees, the Subcommittee for the Prevention of Marine Pollution, the Subcommittee on Safety of Life at Sea, the Maritime Law Subcommittee, the Subcommittee on Tonnage and Measurement, the Subcommittee on the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Subcommittee on Ocean Dumping. This subcommittee structure was established

at the time of the original SHC charter in 1958, and has not been amended since the mid-1970's. The Subcommittees on Tonnage Measurement and UNCTAD have not met in over 10 years. The primary focus of the SHC is to assist in the development of and receive public input on U.S. negotiating positions at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and on various international instruments (*i.e.*, treaties, conventions and protocols) administered by the IMO. Over the last 15 years, the IMO has added a number of committees and subcommittees, whose functions are not directly addressed by the current subcommittees contained in the SHC Charter.

At this meeting SHC members will be asked to discuss and decide whether to:

1. Disestablish the Subcommittee on Tonnage and Measurement and the Subcommittee on UNCTAD.

2. Establish the following new subcommittees:

a. The Subcommittee on IMO Administration and Budgeting. The purpose of the subcommittee would be to ascertain views and make recommendations consistent with paragraphs (1) and (2) of Article I of the SHC Charter for matters before the IMO Assembly and Council.

b. The Subcommittee on IMO Technical Cooperation. The purpose of the subcommittee would be to ascertain views and make recommendations consistent with paragraphs (1) and (2) of Article I of the SHC Charter for matters before the IMO Technical Cooperation Committee.

c. The Subcommittee on Facilitation. The purpose of the subcommittee would be to ascertain views and make recommendations consistent with paragraphs (1) and (2) of Article I of the SHC Charter in regards to United States participation in the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic, 1965, and for matters before the IMO Facilitation Committee.

d. The Subcommittee on the Carriage of Bulk Liquids and Gases. The purpose of the subcommittee would be to ascertain views and make recommendations consistent with paragraphs (1) and (2) of Article I of the SHC Charter for matters before the IMO Bulk Liquids and Gases Subcommittee.

e. The Subcommittee on Ship Design and Equipment. The purpose of the subcommittee would be to ascertain views and make recommendations consistent with paragraphs (1) and (2) of Article I of the SHC Charter for matters before the IMO Design and Equipment Subcommittee.