



IMO

Ref. T2/2.07

LIMITS OF INSHORE TRAFFIC ZONES

1 At its fifty-third session the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 53/24, paragraph 3.15) adopted a proposed amendment to rule 10(d) of the 1972 International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, which deals with the use of inshore traffic zones (ITZ)<sup>\*/</sup>. The effect of the proposed amendment is to confine the use of these zones to certain categories of ships or for specific operational needs. As the use of the ITZs is now more precisely defined than previously, there is a necessity to ensure that mariners are in no doubt as to the limits of ITZs.

---

\*/ The proposed amendment to rule 10(d), which, together with a number of other proposed amendments to the Collision Regulations will be considered for adoption by the fifteenth Assembly of the Organization in November 1987, has as follows:

Rule 10(d) - Use of inshore traffic zones

Amend this rule to read as follows:

- (d)(i) A vessel shall not use an inshore traffic zone when she can safely use the appropriate traffic lane within the adjacent traffic separation scheme. However, vessels of less than 20 metres in length, sailing vessels and vessels engaged in fishing may use the inshore traffic zone;
- (ii) notwithstanding sub-paragraph (i) above, a vessel may use an inshore traffic zone when en route to or from a port, offshore installation, pilot station or any other place situated within the inshore traffic zone or when seeking shelter in the offshore traffic zone.

2 Since all present ITZs were designated before this intended change to rule 10(d) was proposed, it is recommended that Member Governments review those IMO traffic separation schemes they have sponsored to take account of the proposed new rule 10(d)(ii). Such a review should include consideration of whether:

- .1 in the light of experience and of the proposed new rule 10(d)(ii), the ITZ is still required; and
- .2 end limits or inshore limits of the ITZ should be defined to clarify the extent of the zone.

3 Member Governments are invited to inform the Organization of the outcome of the review recommended in paragraph 2 above.

6283Y