

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

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SAFETY OF NAVIGATION

**RULES AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON NAVIGATION THROUGH THE STRAIT
OF ISTANBUL, THE STRAIT OF CANAKKALE AND THE MARMARA SEA**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee at its sixty-third session adopted, subject to confirmation by the nineteenth Assembly, the Rules and Recommendations on Navigation through the Strait of Istanbul, the Strait of Canakkale and the Marmara Sea, given at annex, to ensure safety of navigation for all ships using the Straits and the associated traffic separation schemes adopted by the Organization and established therein.

2 The Rules and Recommendations are established purely for the purpose of safety of navigation and environmental protection and are not intended in any way to affect or prejudice the rights of any ship using the Straits under international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982 and the 1936 Montreux Convention. National regulations promulgated by the Coastal State should be in total conformity with the present Rules and Recommendations.

3 The Rules and Recommendations referred to above and the associated traffic separation schemes adopted by the Organization will enter into force at 0000 hours UTC on 24 November 1994.

4 Member Governments are requested to bring the attached Rules and Recommendations to the attention of shipowners, shipmasters and seafarers of ships which use the Strait of Istanbul, the Strait of Canakkale and the Marmara Sea and to ensure that the Rules and Recommendations are available on board such ships for information and compliance.

ANNEXROUTEING MEASURES OTHER THAN TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEMES
RULES AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON NAVIGATION THROUGH THE STRAIT
OF ISTANBUL, THE STRAIT OF CANAKKALE AND THE MARMARA SEA*

1 USE OF SHIPS' ROUTEING

1.1 Vessels navigating in the Straits shall exercise full diligence and regard for the requirements of the traffic separation schemes (TSSs).

1.2 A vessel that is not able to comply with the requirements of the TSS shall inform the traffic control station well in advance. In such circumstances, the competent authority may temporarily suspend the particular TSS, or section[s] of it, and inform the vessels sailing in the area and advise them to comply with Rule 9 of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972.

1.3 In order to ensure safe transit of vessels which cannot comply with the TSS, the competent authority may temporarily suspend two-way traffic and regulate one-way traffic to maintain a safe distance between vessels.

2 SHIP REPORTING AND NAVIGATION INFORMATION

2.1 All vessels entering the Straits are strongly recommended to participate in the reporting system (TUBRAP) established by the competent authority and of which the appropriate information has been promulgated by notices to mariners and other means.

2.2 For the purpose of efficient and expeditious traffic management, in the interest of safety of navigation and protection of the marine environment, vessels intending to pass through the Straits are strongly advised to give prior information on the size of the vessel, whether in ballast or loaded condition and whether carrying any hazardous and noxious cargo, as defined in relevant International Conventions.

2.3 All vessels navigating in the Straits are recommended to make use of the information broadcasts made by the information services operated by the competent authority, and to keep watch on VHF as appropriate, as set out in the TUBRAP scheme.

3 PILOTAGE

3.1 Masters of vessels passing through the Straits are strongly recommended to avail themselves of the services of a qualified pilot in connection with the requirements of safe navigation.

* (Hereinafter referred to as the Straits)

4 DAYLIGHT TRANSIT

4.1 Vessels having a maximum draught of 15 m or more and vessels over 200 m in overall length are advised to navigate the Straits in daylight.

5 TOWING

5.1 Passage of a vessel under tow may only be carried out when using tugboat[s] or vessel[s] suitably equipped for the operation in order to ensure safe navigation.

6 ANCHORAGE

6.1 When required, vessels may use the anchorages designated for this purpose.