



[T2/2.01]

[T5/1.01]

IMCO

FLOATING DEBRIS

1. At its twenty-third session (15-19 March 1971), the Maritime Safety Committee was informed of the hazards to vessels created by floating or submerged debris, such as synthetic fibre rope, plastic sheets or articles of similar material, which, being buoyant and impervious to rot, can foul propellers of vessels, if lost or discarded at sea. Plastic sheeting, bags and containers can choke the cooling water intakes of vessels of all sizes.
2. The Committee noted that one Member Government had issued a warning to all concerned. As the matter was of considerable importance the Committee agreed that it should be brought to the attention of all Member Governments for any action which they may consider necessary.

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