



Ref. T2/6.01

**SELECTION OF MORE THAN ONE FIXED AREA  
IN THE INMARSAT-C SYSTEM**

- 1 The Sub-Committee on Radiocommunication, at its fortieth session (16 to 20 January 1995), noted that INMARSAT had proposed a change to the INMARSAT-C System Definition Manual (SDM) that would enable Enhanced Group Call (EGC) receivers to monitor "more than four" areas compared with the current requirement of "more than one (minimum two)" areas. It was also emphasized that this requirement applies to coastal warning service areas as well as to the NAVAREA/METAREA concerned.
- 2 The Sub-Committee was also advised by INMARSAT that this change would not be retroactive and, therefore, the owners/operators of existing EGC receivers would not be required to apply this upgraded software in their system.
- 3 In this regard, the Sub-Committee understood that changes are being made to the software of INMARSAT-C terminals from time to time which correct or improve the functional performance of the terminals for distress and safety communications. However, terminals already fitted in ships do not automatically have their software upgraded.
- 4 The Sub-Committee urged Administrations to encourage ships under their jurisdiction to always use the latest version of the manufacturer's software in their INMARSAT-C terminals so as to take advantage of the improved functionality it provides.
- 5 Member Governments are invited to bring this circular to the attention of all concerned.