



COM/Circ.3  
4 March 1963

IMCO

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CO-ORDINATION OF SAFETY AT SEA AND IN THE AIR

1. At its sixth session, the Maritime Safety Committee considered Reports of the IMCO Group of Experts and the Inter-Agency Group established between IMCO, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Telecommunication Union and the World Meteorological Organization to study problems regarding co-ordination of safety at sea and in the air, as required by Recommendation 40 of the 1960 Conference on Safety of Life at Sea.
2. The Committee, taking into account the conclusions and recommendations of these two Groups, reached decisions with regard to the following items:
  - (a) Radio communications between ships and search and rescue aircraft (Recommendation 41, 1960 Conference).
  - (b) Emergency position-indicating radio beacons (Recommendation 48, 1960 Conference).
  - (c) Interference between shipborne and airborne radar (Recommendation 46, 1960 Conference).
3. The decisions of the Committee on these items are as follows:
  - (a) Radio communications between ships and search and rescue aircraft

The Committee decided to recommend to Member Governments that all SAR aircraft should be equipped with means of communicating on 2182 kc/s and should have the possibility of "homing" on that frequency as well.

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(b) Emergency position-indicating radio beacons

The Committee decided that 2182 kc/s should be recommended as a first choice operational frequency for these radio beacons. It should, however, rest with each State to determine whether the equipment should allow for the use of a second frequency and, in such a case, to decide on the second frequency.

(c) Interference between shipborne and airborne radar

The Committee confirmed the view expressed in the Inter-Agency Group that at present there was little evidence of harmful interference between shipborne and airborne radar. There was however the possibility of radar interference between one ship and another. The Committee requested the Secretariat to make further investigations into this aspect of the problem and invited Member Governments to inform the Secretariat of any evidence of such interference.

4. The Organization is consulting with ITU about further implementation of Recommendation 48 of the 1960 Conference in connexion with the radio characteristics of position-indicating radio beacons. Information on further developments will be circulated to Member Governments when available.

As regards item 3(c) of the preceding paragraph, Member Governments are requested to keep this subject under review and to inform the Organization of any evidence of interference between shipborne radars.

5. A copy of the Report of the Inter-Agency Group had been circulated to all Member Governments with SN/Circ. 2 - COM/Circ. 2 of 21 September 1962.

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