PROVISIONS FOR EMBARKATION AND DISEMBARKATION OF PILOTS IN ARGENTINE PORTS

1. The Argentine Government has established provisions for embarkation and disembarkation of pilots, containing detailed specifications for pilot ladders and mechanical pilot hoists. National Regulations have been promulgated requiring vessels to comply with those provisions when visiting Argentine ports.

2. The above provisions specify that primarily an accommodation ladder should be used for the embarkation and disembarkation of the pilot; this could be supplemented, if necessary, by a pilot ladder which does not require the pilot to climb up or down more than three metres. If weather conditions are favourable and the climbing distance is less than six metres a pilot ladder only could be accepted. Instead of these arrangements, a mechanical pilot hoist could be used, of a hoisting speed between 18 and 25 metres per minute.

3. In general, the specifications for pilot ladders follow the provisions of Regulation 17, Chapter V of the 1960 Safety Convention as amended by Resolution A.263(VIII); the specifications for mechanical pilot hoists are in accordance with the provisions of Resolution A.275(VIII).

4. The Government of Argentina requested that the promulgation of these provisions be brought to the attention of all concerned so that delays to ships could be avoided particularly when weather conditions are not favourable.