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SUB-COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING
31st session
Agenda item 11

STW 31/11
4 October 1999
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IMO STANDARD MARINE COMMUNICATION PHRASES (SMCP)

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

Executive summary:	This document provides information on the initial consideration of the results of the trials on the basis of information received so far by NAV 45
Action to be taken:	Paragraph 6
Related documents:	MSC 71/23 paragraphs 20.29 and 20.33, NAV 45/13, NAV 45/14, and MSC/Circ.794.

Background

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its sixty-eighth session (28 May to 6 June 1997), considered draft "Standard Marine Communication Phrases (SMCPs)" prepared by the Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation and approved their dissemination by MSC/Circ.794. MSC 68 also invited Member Governments and international organizations concerned to conduct trials using the SMCPs and to report the results of such trials well in advance for consideration by NAV 45, in order that it could, in co-operation with the COMSAR and STW Sub-Committees, finalize the SMCPs.

2 MSC 68 also considered that, following this, a suitable draft Assembly resolution could be prepared for submission to the twenty-second session of the Assembly for adoption.

3 MSC 71 instructed NAV 45 to include, in the provisional agenda for NAV 46, an item on "IMO Standard Marine Communication Phrases".

Update

4 NAV 45 gave initial consideration to the results of the trials on the basis of information thus far received by the Secretariat from Chile, Croatia, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Ukraine, Hong Kong, China and ISF (NAV 45/13). NAV 45 also requested comments and proposals from Members for more detailed consideration at NAV 46.

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5 COMSAR 4 also deferred its consideration of SMCPs until COMSAR 5.

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

6 The Sub-Committee is invited to note the above information and decide as appropriate.
