



ICAO/IMO JWG ON HARMONIZATION OF  
AERONAUTICAL AND MARITIME SAR  
14th session  
Agenda item 4

ICAO/IMO JWG 14/4-WP/21  
20 August 2007  
ENGLISH ONLY

## **SAR OPERATIONAL PRINCIPLES, PROCEDURES AND TECHNIQUES**

### **Safety of passenger ships**

**(Presented by Japan)**

#### **SUMMARY**

<b><i>Executive summary:</i></b>	This paper makes proposals for ensuring rescue techniques of SOLAS ships using recovery system, and requests the JWG to take further action as appropriate
<b><i>Action to be taken:</i></b>	Paragraph 4
<b><i>Related documents:</i></b>	COMSAR 11/6; COMSAR 11/18, paragraph 6.15; DE 50/27 paragraph 21.1 and STW 38/17 paragraph 5.2

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. In considering recommendation 5 of the JWG 13, COMSAR 11 agreed with the JWG's views of the continuing importance of the development of SOLAS requirements to carry a recovery system to enhance SAR operations, and DE is working on developing draft performance standards for recovery systems with target completion date 2008.

2. As Japan basically agree to have a recovery system in SOLAS ship, measures should be taken for the SOLAS ship's mariners to have them confidence and techniques as rescuers not only for the better performances in rescuing survivors but also for the safety of themselves who are not professional rescuers.

## **PROPOSAL**

3. Therefore, Japan proposes three measures as follows:

### **3.1 Proposal ONE: JWG should develop a "Guidelines for safe and effective rescue operations"**

Though basic method is described in the Section 2 of the IAMSAR Manual, Volume Three (page 2-36) "Recovery of survivors by assisting vessels", it is requested by many seafarers in Japan that more comprehensive and detailed instructions and knowledge are necessary for safer and better rescue performances by them. The Guidelines would provide more detailed procedures and techniques, giving variety of choices of how to do the rescue operations for seafarers to match to a situation. Japan is happy to present the first draft of the Guidelines to the next JWG.

**3.2 Proposal TWO: STCW Convention should provide measures to maintain mariners rescue capability**

Since mariners should be trained as rescuers and keep themselves in certain level of rescue performances, legislation should provide mariners of chances for basic training and periodical brush-up. Developing training course for rescue operations would be necessary, and periodical exercise with rescuers of SAR organizations would be good for mariners as capacity and confidence building measure as rescuers.

**3.3 Proposal THREE: International Date Base on Rescue operations should be established**

Lessons learnt from actual rescue cases which SOLAS ships participated should be shared by all seafarers for safer and more effective rescue operations in the future. International body, e.g. IMO or International Maritime Rescue Federation, should establish and run the Date Base which is open to anybody who needs information. IMO recommendation would be necessary to encourage ships to report their rescue operations to the international boy by a fixed reporting format.

**ACTION REQUIRED OF THE JWG**

4. The JWG is invited to:
  - .1 discuss the proposals in paragraph 3;
  - .2 endorse the proposals; and if so,
  - .3 request COMSAR of adding this work in the work programme, and mandating JWG of the work; and
  - .4 request also the Secretariat to bring its views to the attention of the DE and STW Sub-Committees through COMSAR as appropriate.

— END —