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MSC/Circ.1129  
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## **GUIDANCE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MEDICAL AND SANITATION RELATED PROGRAMMES FOR PASSENGER SHIPS**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC), at its seventy-ninth session (1 to 10 December 2004), having recalled its guiding philosophy for the passenger ship safety initiative that “passenger ships should be crewed and equipped to ensure the health-safety, medical care and security of persons on board until more specialized assistance is available”, agreed that owners and operators of passenger ships should establish medical and sanitation related programmes based on guidelines and standards acceptable to the Administration\* or published by an internationally recognized organization\*\*.

2 Member Governments are invited to bring the above view to the attention of shipowners, ship operators, ship masters, SAR service providers and others concerned.

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\* Refer, e.g. to the Guidelines of the American College of Emergency Physicians, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, etc.

\*\* Refer, e.g. to the World Health Organization, International Labour Organization, etc.