
4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT
LONDON SE1 7SR
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

SAR.7/Circ.16
24 June 2024

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS WHICH SHOULD BE HELD
BY A MARITIME OR JOINT RESCUE COORDINATION CENTRE**

- 1 The Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR), at its eleventh session (4 to 13 June 2024), taking into account the recent developments, approved the updated *List of documents and publications which should be held by a maritime or joint rescue coordination centre* (SAR.7/Circ.16), as set out in the annex.
- 2 Member States are invited to bring the annexed list to the attention of maritime and/or joint rescue coordination centres (MRCCs and/or JRCCs) personnel.
- 3 This circular revokes SAR.7/Circ.15.

ANNEX**LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS WHICH SHOULD BE HELD
BY A MARITIME OR JOINT RESCUE COORDINATION CENTRE**

This list is published following the instructions of the Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR), and provides maritime and joint rescue coordination centres (MRCCs and JRCCs), solely for their operational purposes, with a minimum list of documents and publications which are essential for such centres to have in their possession or to have rapid and reliable access to a digital version.

The list has been kept to a minimum. It only covers search and rescue (SAR) and no other tasks which RCCs are often required to perform. Thus, documents concerning the World-Wide Navigational Warning Service are only mentioned to the extent that access to the system is essential in the context of some SAR operations.

National authorities responsible for SAR may, of course, add to this list to improve centres' documentation. Governments may replace the documents and publications listed below by national equivalent documents and publications. It is also for them to decide, depending on the degree of autonomy of maritime or joint rescue sub-centres, whether some documents on the list need not be provided to them.

REFERENCE	DATE (dd/mm/yy) where applicable	TITLE
1 IMO publications All following publications are available (to be purchased) at: Publications (imo.org)		
KT110A, IG-110 E/F/S	2020	<i>International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) (Consolidated Edition, 2020)</i>
S110E		SOLAS on the Web – a yearly subscription to the SOLAS Convention and SOLAS Amendments newly revised and updated to April 2021.
KB-955 E, EB-955 A/C/F/R/S	2006	<i>International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979 (SAR 1979) (2006 Edition)</i>
IK960E, KH961F and KH061S	2022	<i>International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual, Volume I – Organization and Management (2022 Edition)</i>
IH961E, KH961F and KH961S	2022	<i>International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual, Volume II – Mission Coordination (2022 Edition)</i>
IK962 E/F/S	2022	<i>International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual, Volume III – Mobile Facilities (2022 Edition)</i>
IJ-970 E	2024	<i>GMDSS Manual (2024 Edition)</i>
I-969 E	1992	<i>GMDSS Operating Guidance Card (1992 Edition)</i>
IA-987 E/F/S	2002 (electronic 2005 edition)	<i>IMO Standard Marine Communication Phrases (IMO SMCP) – (including CD: pronunciation guide) (2005 Edition)</i>

REFERENCE	DATE (dd/mm/yy) where applicable	TITLE
KC-908 E, IC-908 F/S	2021	<i>International SafetyNET services manual</i> (2021 Edition)
IF-951 E, IE-951 F/S	2023	<i>NAVTEX Manual</i> (2023 Edition)
IB-910 E/F/S	2015	<i>Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety Information</i> (2015 Edition)
IA-994 E/S, EA-994 F	2005/2021	<i>International Code of Signals</i> (2005 Edition)
IN-200 E/F/S	2022	<i>International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code</i> (2022 Edition, incorporating amendments 41-22)
IL-210 E, IL-210 F, KL210 S	2022	<i>IMDG Code Supplement</i> (2022 Edition)
2 IMO documents		
The following resolutions are available for free at: Index of IMO Resolutions MSC circulars are available for free at (IMODOCS): List of MSC circulars COMSAR circulars are available for free at (IMODOCS): List of COMSAR circulars		
Res. A.705(17), as amended by Res. MSC.468(101)	06/11/91 (amended 14/06/19)	<i>Recommendation on promulgation of Maritime Safety Information</i>
Res. A.706(17), as amended by Res. MSC.469(101)	06/11/91 (amended 14/06/19)	<i>World-Wide Navigational Warning Service</i>
Res. A.855(20)	27/11/97	<i>Standards for onboard helicopter facilities</i>
Res. A.856(20)	27/11/97	<i>Guidance to Administrations on development of a shore-based SAR telecommunication infrastructure</i>
Res. A.887(21)	25/11/99	<i>Establishment, updating and retrieval of the information contained in the registration databases for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)</i>
Res. A.919(22)	29/11/01	<i>Acceptance and implementation of the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979, as amended</i>
Res. A.920(22)	29/11/01	<i>Review of safety measures and procedures for the treatment of persons rescued at sea</i>
Res. A.949(23)	05/12/03	<i>Guidelines on places of refuge for ships in need of assistance</i>
Res. A.950(23)	05/12/03	<i>Maritime Assistance Services (MAS)</i>
Res. A.954(23)	05/12/03	<i>Proper use of VHF channels at sea</i>
Res. A.999(25)	29/11/07	<i>Guidelines on voyage planning for passenger ships operating in remote areas</i>
Res. A.1051(27), as amended by Res. MSC.470(101)	30/11/11 (amended 14/06/19)	<i>IMO/WMO Worldwide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service – Guidance Document</i>
Res.A.1074(28)	15/01/14	<i>Notification and circulation through the Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS)</i>
Res. MSC.167(78)	20/05/04	<i>Guidelines on the treatment of persons rescued at sea</i> (Also see IMO/UNHCR/ICS leaflet below)

REFERENCE	DATE (dd/mm/yy) where applicable	TITLE
IMO/UNHCR/ICS leaflet	2015	Rescue at sea – A guide to principles and practice as applied to refugees and migrants https://www.unhcr.org/publications/brochures/450037d34/rescue-sea-guide-principles-practice-applied-migrants-refugees.html
Res. MSC.305(87)	17/05/10	<i>Guidelines on operational procedures for the promulgation of Maritime Safety Information concerning acts of piracy and piracy counter-measure operations</i>
Res. MSC.509(105)	28/04/22	<i>Provision of radio services for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)</i>
Res. MSC.514(105)	28/04/22	<i>Guidelines for the avoidance of false distress alerts</i>
COMSAR/Circ.3	19/04/96	Relations between NAVAREA Coordinators and Rescue Coordination Centres
COMSAR/Circ.22	20/06/00	Guidance on data fields for SAR databases
COMSAR/Circ.29	27/05/02	Guidance for the voluntary use of the standardized questionnaires and formats for reporting false alerts in collecting data on false alerts
COMSAR/Circ.31	06/02/03	Guidance for Mass Rescue Operations (MROs)
COMSAR/Circ.35	21/05/04	Recommendations on medium frequency/high frequency (MF/HF) digital selective calling (DSC) test calls to coast stations
COMSAR/Circ.36	18/02/05	Broadcast of warnings for tsunamis and other natural disasters
COMSAR/Circ.37/Rev.1	28/05/21	Guidance on minimum communication needs of Maritime Rescue Coordination Centres (MRCCs)
COMSAR.1/Circ.41	16/10/07	Analysis of Maritime Safety Information promulgated via the EGC SafetyNET system and recommendations on improving its quality
COMSAR.1/Circ.50/Rev.4	28/05/21	Distress priority communications for RCCs from shore to ship via global maritime distress and safety system (GMDSS) satellite service providers
COMSAR.1/Circ.55	30/11/12	Guidance for entering and updating information on search and rescue services into GISIS and on how to get access to the information for operational use
COMSAR.1/Circ.56	30/11/12	Guidance on smartphone and other computer device SAR applications
COMSAR.1/Circ.59/Rev.1	03/07/23	<i>Guidance for search and rescue services regarding implementation of autonomous distress tracking (ADT) of aircraft in flight</i>
COMSAR.1/Circ.60	30/06/22	Procedure for routing distress alerts
MSC.1/Circ.803/Rev.1	16/05/22	Participation of non-SOLAS ships in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and guidance on the development of training materials for GMDSS operators on non-SOLAS ships

REFERENCE	DATE (dd/mm/yy) where applicable	TITLE
MSC/Circ.805	06/06/97	Guidance for the use of radio signals by ships under attack or threat of attack from pirates or armed robbers
MSC/Circ.892/Rev.1	28/11/22	Guidance on alerting of search and rescue authorities
MSC/Circ.895, as amended by MSC.1/Circ.1524	04/02/99 (amended 06/06/16)	Recommendation on helicopter landing areas on ro-ro passenger ships
MSC.1/Circ.896/Rev.2	26/05/16	Interim measures for combating unsafe practices associated with the trafficking, smuggling or transport of migrants by sea
MSC/Circ.959	20/06/00	Interim procedures for MRCCs on receipt of distress alerts
MSC/Circ.960	20/06/00	Medical assistance at sea
MSC/Circ.1042	28/05/02	List of contents of the "Emergency Medical Kit/Bag" and medical consideration for its use on ro-ro passenger ships not normally carrying a medical doctor
MSC/Circ.1043	31/05/02	Guidance on ships' daily reporting of their positions to their companies
MSC/Circ.1073	10/06/03	Measures to enhance maritime security – Directives for maritime rescue coordination centres (MRCCs) on acts of violence against ships
MSC/Circ.1078	06/06/03	Guidelines to Administrations on reporting false alerts
MSC/Circ.1079/Rev.1	16/06/17	Guidelines for preparing plans for cooperation between search and rescue services and passenger ships (in accordance with SOLAS regulation V/7.3)
MSC/Circ.1105	25/02/04	Guidance on responsibility and liability issues related to the use of the emergency medical kit/bag and evaluation of its use in emergency incidents
MSC.1/Circ.1156	23/05/05	Guidance on the access of public authorities, emergency response services and pilots on board ships to which SOLAS chapter XI -2 and the ISPS Code apply
MSC/Circ.1172	23/05/05	Identification of passenger ships, other than ro-ro passenger ships, which should benefit from being equipped with the Emergency Medical Kit/Bag (EMK)
MSC.1/Circ.1182/Rev.1	21/11/14	Guide to recovery techniques
MSC.1/Circ.1183	31/05/06	Guidelines on the provision of external support as an aid to incident containment for SAR Authorities and others concerned
MSC.1/Circ.1184	31/05/06	Enhanced contingency planning guidance for passenger ships operating in areas remote from SAR facilities
MSC.1/Circ.1185/Rev.1	30/11/12	Guide for cold water survival
MSC.1/Circ.1186	01/06/06	Guidelines on the training of SAR service personnel working in major incidents

REFERENCE	DATE (dd/mm/yy) where applicable	TITLE
MSC.1/Circ.1210/Rev.1	21/11/14	Guidance on the Cospas-Sarsat International 406 MHz Beacon Registration Database
MSC.1/Circ.1369 (as amended by MSC.1/Circ.1369/Add.1)	22/06/10 (04/12/12)	Interim explanatory notes for the assessment of passenger ship systems' capabilities after a fire or flooding casualty
MSC.1/Circ.1218	15/12/06	Guidance on exchange of medical information between telemedical assistance services (TMAS) involved in international SAR operations
MSC.1/Circ.1248	16/10/07	Minimizing delays in search and rescue response to distress alerts
MSC.1/Circ.1333/Rev.1	26/06/09	Recommendations to Governments for preventing and suppressing piracy and armed robbery against ships
MSC.1/Circ.1334	23/06/09	Guidance to shipowners and ship operators, shipmasters and crews on preventing and suppressing acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships
MSC.1/Circ.1338/Rev.1	21/11/14	Guidance to search and rescue services in relation to requesting and receiving LRIT information
MSC.1/Circ.1365	24/05/10	Commercially available locating, tracking and emergency notification devices
MSC.1/Circ.1413	25/05/12	Basic safety guidance for yacht races or oceanic voyages by non-regulated craft
MSC.1/Circ.1447	14/12/12	Guidelines for the development of plans and procedures for recovery of persons from the water
MSC.1/Circ.1613/Rev.2	05/07/23	Iridium SafetyCast service manual
MSC.1/Circ.1656	28/11/22	<i>GMDSS operating guidance for ships in distress</i>
MSC.1/Circ.1657	28/11/22	<i>Procedure for responding to DSC distress alerts by ships</i>
MSC.1/Circ.1658	28/11/22	<i>Guidance on distress alerts</i>
MSC.1/Circ.1659	28/11/22	<i>Guidance for the dissemination of search and rescue related information through the international enhanced group call service</i>
3 Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS)*		
Global SAR Plan module	Real time	Global SAR Plan
Contact Points module	Real time	Contact Points on Maritime Assistance Services
GMDSS module	Real time	GMDSS Master Plan

* <https://gisis.imo.org>

REFERENCE	DATE (dd/mm/yy) where applicable	TITLE
4 Non-IMO documents		
ITU List IV	(updated biennially)	List IV – List of Coast Stations and Special Service Stations Can be purchased at: Maritime Publications (itu.int)
ITU List V	(updated annually)	List V – List of Ship Stations and Maritime Mobile Service Identity Assignments Can be purchased at: Maritime Publications (itu.int)
ITU MARS	Updated daily	Maritime mobile Access and Retrieval System (MARS) containing the same information as in List IV and List V above Available for free at: MARS (itu.int)
Cospas-Sarsat – C/S G.007	October 2023	Handbook on Distress Alert Messages for RCCs, SPOCs and IMO Ship Security Competent Authorities Available for free at: cospas-sarsat.int
List of Radio Signals		List of Radio Signals (as may be made available by some national arrangements)
Air Navigation Plan for ICAO region the MRCC or JRCC is located in		Electronic Regional Air Navigation Plan (eANP) Available at: eANP (icao.int)
ICAO International Standards and Recommended Practices		Annex 12 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation – Search and Rescue (eighth edition) Can be purchased at: store.icao.int
