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MSC/Circ.1013  
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**INTERIM APPLICATION OF PARAGRAPHS 4.6.1.1, 4.6.2.2 AND 15.7 OF THE SURVEY  
GUIDELINES UNDER THE HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF SURVEY AND  
CERTIFICATION (RESOLUTION A.746(18))**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-fourth session (30 May to 8 June 2001), noted the inconsistency that exists between resolution A.744(18) on Guidelines on the Enhanced Programme of Inspections during Surveys of Bulk Carriers and Oil Tankers, and resolution A.746(18) on Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification, concerning the alignment of a dry dock survey with the renewal survey.

2 Recognizing the intent of the 1988 SOLAS Protocol to provide for a harmonized system of survey and certification, the Committee agreed, in principle, that resolutions A.744(18) and A.746(18) should be harmonized with respect to inspection of the ship's bottom and that the 1988 SOLAS Protocol should be amended as necessary.

3 Further recognizing that considerable time will pass before an amendment to the 1988 SOLAS Protocol and revision of resolutions A.744(18) and A.746(18) can be completed, the Committee agreed that an interim recommendation is needed to achieve a single harmonized system of survey and certification.

4 Therefore, pending the completion of such amendments and revisions and noting the amendments to resolution A.744(18), as adopted by resolution MSC.105(73) concerning the inspection of the ship's bottom of tankers and bulk carriers of 15 years of age and over, Administrations are recommended to apply the procedure, set out in the annex, for the survey and certification of all ships subject to the 1988 SOLAS Protocol until such time when the required amendments to the 1988 SOLAS Protocol enter into force.

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## ANNEX

**INTERIM APPLICATION OF PARAGRAPHS 4.6.1.1, 4.6.2.2 AND 15.7 OF THE SURVEY GUIDELINES UNDER THE HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF SURVEY AND CERTIFICATION (RESOLUTION A.746(18))****4.6 Inspections of the outside of the ship's bottom of cargo ships****4.6.1 Frequency**

**4.6.1.1** There should be a minimum of two inspections of the outside of the ship's bottom during any five-year period (see 15.7), except where SOLAS 74/78/88 regulation I/14(e) or (f) is applicable. One such inspection should be carried out on or after the fourth annual survey in conjunction with the renewal of the Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate or the Cargo Ship Safety Certificate. Where the Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate or the Cargo Ship Safety Certificate has been extended under SOLAS 74/88 regulation I/14(e) or (f), this five year period may be extended to coincide with the validity of the certificate. In all cases the interval between any two such inspections should not exceed 36 months.

**4.6.2 General**

**4.6.2.2** Inspections of the outside of the ship's bottom should normally be carried out with the ship in dry dock. However, consideration may be given to alternate inspections being carried out with the ship afloat. Special consideration should be given before ships of 15 years of age and over other than bulk carriers and oil tankers are permitted to have such surveys afloat. Inspection of the outside of the ship's bottom of bulk carriers and oil tankers of 15 years of age and over should be carried out with the ship in dry dock. Inspections with the ship afloat should only be carried out when the conditions are satisfactory and the proper equipment and suitably trained staff are available. For ships subject to enhanced survey, the provisions of paragraphs 2.2.2\* of Annexes A or B, as applicable, of resolution A. 744(18), as amended, should apply.

**15.7 Meaning of any five-year period**

*Any five-year period* is the period starting from the completion of the inspection of the outside of the ship's bottom and it is linked to the five-year period of validity of the Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate or the Cargo Ship Safety Certificate.

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\* 2.2.2 For ships of 15 years of age and over, inspection of the outside of the ship's bottom should be carried out with the ship in dry dock. For ships of less than 15 years of age, alternate inspections of the ship's bottom not conducted in conjunction with the enhanced survey during the periodical survey may be carried out with the ship afloat. Inspections with the ship afloat should only be carried out when the conditions are satisfactory and the proper equipment and suitably trained staff are available.