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RECOMMENDATION FOR THE USE OF A STANDARD FORMAT FOR THE CARGO INFORMATION REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 16 OF THE IBC CODE

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-sixth session (2 to 13 December 2002), and the Marine Environment Protection Committee, at its forty-ninth session (14 to 18 July 2003), recognizing the need for a standard set of occupational health data for seafarers that covers the substances to which they are likely to become exposed on board tankers, agreed that a standard format should be used to provide seafarers with clear, concise and accurate occupational health information.

2 Therefore, the Committees, noting that the United Nations Sub-Committee for the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals has developed a single, globally harmonized system to address classification of chemicals, labels, and safety data sheets, which are intended to provide essential health and safety information on chemicals for use by consumers, workers, transport workers and emergency responders, agreed that, in addition to the provisions of paragraph 16.2 of the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (IBC Code), any cargo offered for shipment in bulk which is subject to chapters 17 and 18 of the IBC Code should be accompanied by safety data sheets based on the format contained in chapter 1.5 of the Globally Harmonized System for Hazard Classification and Communication.*

3 Member Governments are invited to bring the above recommendation to the attention of shipowners, shipoperators and other parties involved in the transportation of such cargo.

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