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**DETERMINATION OF THE REQUIRED SAFE WORKING LOAD OF LIFERAFT
LAUNCHING APPLIANCES ON PASSENGER SHIPS**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its eighty-seventh session (12 to 21 May 2010), following the recommendations made by the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Equipment, at its fifty-second session, adopted amendments to the LSA Code (resolution MSC.293(87)) which are expected to enter into force on 1 January 2012 and to the Revised recommendation on testing of life-saving appliances (resolution MSC.295(87)), to increase the assumed weight of liferaft occupants to 82.5 kg for the purpose of liferaft approval evaluation and testing.

2 In adopting the aforementioned amendments, the Committee considered the recommendation by the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Equipment, at its fifty-second session, that the determination of the required safe working load of a life raft launching appliance on a passenger ship should continue to be based on an assumed occupant weight of 75 kg, even though the liferaft has been tested to a higher weight standard, and agreed to the recommendation.

3 The Committee, therefore, agreed that the required safe working load of liferaft launching appliances on passenger ships should continue to be based on an assumed occupant weight of 75 kg times the number of persons for which the liferaft is approved. The Committee also agreed that, notwithstanding paragraph 2/6.2.5 of the Revised recommendation on testing of life-saving appliances (resolution MSC.81(70)), as amended by resolution MSC.295(87), for liferaft launching appliances on passenger ships, the load for the installation "lowering test" should continue to be based on an assumed occupant weight of 75 kg.

4 Member Governments are invited to apply the above clarification when evaluating and testing installations of liferaft launching appliances on passenger ships, and bring it to the attention of all parties concerned.