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**INTERIM MEASURES FOR EARLY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DRAFT AMENDMENTS (02-13) TO THE IMSBC CODE
EXPECTED TO BE ADOPTED AT MSC 92**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its ninetieth session (16 to 25 May 2012), having noted that the Sub-Committee on Dangerous Goods, Solid Cargoes and Containers (DSC), at its sixteenth session, had prepared draft amendments to sections 4 and 8 of the IMSBC Code, which are expected to be adopted by the Committee at its ninety-second session (12 to 21 June 2013), agreed that SOLAS Contracting Governments should be invited to implement the aforementioned draft amendments on the safe transportation of solid bulk cargoes, taking into account that the earliest entry-into-force date of the amendments is expected to be 1 January 2015.

2 The relevant paragraphs of sections 4 and 8 of the draft amendments (02-13) to the IMSBC Code are as follows:

"SECTION 4

Assessment of acceptability of consignments for safe shipment

- 4.3.2 When a concentrate or other cargo which may liquefy is carried, the shipper shall provide the ship's master or his representative with a signed certificate of the Transportable Moisture Limit (TML), and a signed certificate or declaration of the moisture content, each issued by an entity recognized by the Competent Authority of the port of loading.
- 4.3.3 When a concentrate or other cargo which may liquefy is carried, procedures for sampling, testing and controlling moisture content to ensure the moisture content is less than the TML when it is on board the ship shall be established by the shipper, taking account of the provisions of this Code. Such procedures shall be approved and their implementation checked by the competent authority of the port of loading*. The document issued by the Competent Authority stating that the procedures have been approved shall be provided to the master or his representative.
- 4.3.4 If the cargo is loaded on to the ship from barges, in developing the procedures under paragraph 4.3.3, the shipper shall include procedures to protect the cargo on the barges from any precipitation and water ingress.

* Taking into account guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

- 4.4.3 For a concentrate or other cargo which may liquefy the shipper shall facilitate access to stockpiles for the purpose of inspection, sampling and subsequent testing by the ship's nominated representative.

SECTION 8

Test procedures for cargoes that may liquefy

- 8.4.2 If samples remain dry following a can test, the moisture content of the material may still exceed the TML."

3 Taking into account that the DSC Sub-Committee, at its seventeenth session (17 to 21 September 2012), will further consider the above draft amendments with a view to finalization, Contracting Governments to the 1974 SOLAS Convention and other relevant parties concerned are urged to implement sections 4 and 8 of the draft amendments (02-13) to the IMSBC Code as an interim measure, prior to their expected date of entry-into-force date, on a voluntary basis, as far as reasonably possible.
