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MSC.1/Circ.1553
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SHIPBOARD ESCAPE ROUTE SIGNS AND EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT LOCATION MARKINGS

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its seventy-fifth session (15 to 24 May 2002), having noted that ISO was developing a new ISO standard for shipboard signage for life-saving appliances and arrangements and means of escape, agreed that, once the aforementioned standard was published, it may be taken into consideration in the context of revising resolution A.760(18) on *Symbols related to life-saving appliances and arrangements*, as amended by resolution MSC.82(70).*

2 The Committee, at its ninety-seventh session (21 to 25 November 2016), noted that resolution A.760(18) recognizes the need for uniform international symbols to indicate the location of emergency equipment as well as assembly and embarkation stations and that the Assembly had urged Member States to ensure that the symbols annexed to that resolution were used, where appropriate.

3 The Committee, having noted that ISO had published its standard ISO 24409-2:2014, *Design, location and use of shipboard safety signs, safety-related signs, safety notices and safety markings – Part 2: Catalogue*, which generally conforms to the corresponding symbols set out in the annex to resolution A.760(18), as amended, and the annex to resolution A.952(23) on *Graphical symbols for fire control plans*, decided that the ISO standard 24409 series should be brought to the attention of Member States.

4 It is the intention of the Committee to prepare a revision of resolution A.760(18), which will incorporate the graphical symbols contained in the above-mentioned ISO standard, without any changes, for adoption by the Committee at its ninety-ninth session in 2018.

5 Member States are invited to bring the ISO standard 24409 series to the attention of ship designers, shipbuilders, shipowners, ship operators, ship masters, shore-based firefighting personnel and other parties concerned, so that they may use it, on a voluntary basis, for shipboard signage, in compliance with the relevant requirements of SOLAS chapters II-2 and III, pending the adoption of the revised resolution.

6 Member States are also invited to note that existing ships may still use resolution A.760(18), as amended, for shipboard signage.

* Refer to paragraph 7 of MSC/Circ.1050.