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MSC.1/Circ.1547
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**GUIDANCE ON THE APPLICATION OF SOLAS REGULATION II-1/3-12
TO SHIPS DELIVERED BEFORE 1 JULY 2018**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC), at its ninety-sixth session (11 to 20 May 2016), approved draft amendments to SOLAS regulation II-1/3-12 in order to clarify the application of the aforementioned regulation.

2 In this regard, MSC 96, with a view to providing, in the interim period following approval and until the amendment enters into force, guidance on the application of SOLAS regulation II-1/3-12, as provided in resolution MSC.338(91), to ships for which the building contract is placed before 1 July 2014, the keels of which are laid or which are at a similar stage of construction on or after 1 January 2015 and delivered before 1 July 2018, approved the following guidance:

On ships:

- .1 for which the building contract is placed before 1 July 2014; and
- .2 the keels of which are laid or which are at a similar stage of construction on or after 1 January 2015; and
- .3 the delivery of which is before 1 July 2018,

measures* should be taken to reduce machinery noise in machinery spaces to acceptable levels as determined by the Administration. If this noise cannot be sufficiently reduced the source of excessive noise should be suitably insulated or isolated or a refuge from noise should be provided if the space is required to be manned. Ear protectors should be provided for personnel required to enter such spaces, if necessary.

3 Member States are invited to use the above guidance when applying the relevant provisions of SOLAS regulation II-1/3-12 and to bring it to the attention of all parties concerned.

* Refer to the *Code on noise levels on board ships* (resolution A.468(XII)).