

Review and amendment of the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety Information (MSI)

Submitted by IMSO

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document contains proposals from IMSO on the revision of the Revised Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on MSI

Action to be taken: Paragraph 6

Related documents: MSC.1/Circ.1310/Rev.1, Resolution MSC.468(101), Resolution A.705(17)

1. The 20th meeting of the IHO WWNWS-SC Document Review Working Group (DRWG20) considered the revision of the Revised Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on MSI (MSC.1/Circ.1310/Rev.1).
2. During the discussion at DRWG20, the following amendment was proposed to paragraph 2.7.2 on Coordination procedures:
 - 2.7 Coordination procedures**
 - 2.7.1 In order to make the best use of automated reception facilities and to ensure that the mariner receives at least the minimum information necessary for safe navigation, careful coordination is required.
 - 2.7.2 In general, this requirement for coordination will be met by the standard operational procedures of IMO, IHO, ~~and the WMO, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO). Cases of difficulty~~Coordination issues should be referred, in the first instance, to the most appropriate parent body.
3. Noting that the word ‘coordination’ can have a very wide meaning, IMSO suggests the following amendment to the proposed text in paragraph 2.7.2 (proposed new text is underlined):
 - 2.7.2 In general, this requirement for coordination will be met by the standard operational procedures of IMO, IHO, and the WMO. Coordination issues of a technical or operational nature should be referred, in the first instance, to the most appropriate parent body.
4. Also, in the view of IMSO, a reference to IMSO should be retained in the manual as IMSO is responsible for ensuring that the requirements for the broadcast of MSI and SAR related information through the EGC systems of a recognized mobile satellite service providers are being followed. The inclusion of IMSO in this paragraph provided a route for MSI providers to communicate with IMSO. The diagram in Figure 1 shows

the relationship between IMSO, other international organisations, GMDSS satellite communication service providers and EGC providers on the provision of MSI.

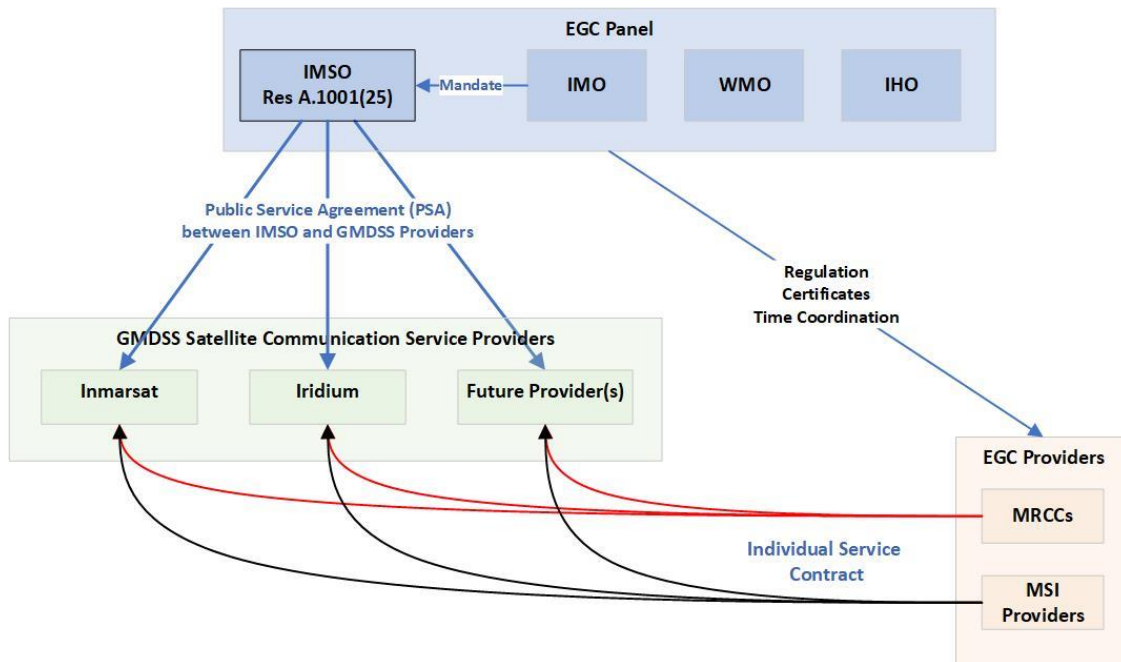


Figure 1- IMSO relationships for MSI provision

5. IMSO therefore suggests the addition of the following new section in the revised manual:

2.8 EGC Service Availability

2.8.1 As set out in paragraphs 7.1 and 7.2 of IMO Resolution MSC.468(101) on Amendments to Promulgation of Maritime Safety Information (Resolution A.705(17), as amended), the EGC system(s) of recognized mobile satellite service providers should provide continuous availability for broadcasting MSI and SAR related information in accordance with the relevant provisions of resolution A.1001(25).

2.8.2 Cases of difficulty affecting the broadcast of MSI and SAR related information through the EGC system(s) of a recognized mobile satellite service provider in ways that limit the ability of information providers to monitor the EGC broadcasts that they originate, or the ability of ships to receive EGC broadcasts intended for reception throughout their intended voyages, should be brought to the attention of IMSO as and when necessary for the purpose of discharging IMSO's technical oversight responsibilities in respect of the recognized satellite service provider(s) involved.

Action to be taken

6. The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the proposals on the revision of the Revised Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on MSI, as set out in paragraphs 3 and 5.