



Date: 2025/12/29
ال تاريخ: ٢٠٢٥/١٢/٢٩
Ref. No: ١١٦٠ - ١١
الإشاري: ١١

Circular No. 02/2025

To: All Shipowners, Operators, and Managers

Subject: IMO Instruments Entering into Force – Effective 1 January 2026

1. Purpose

This Circular informs all shipowners, operators, and managers of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) instruments scheduled to enter into force on **1 January 2026**. Compliance is mandatory to maintain certification and operational readiness under international maritime conventions.

2. IMO Instruments Effective 1 January 2026

A. SOLAS & Safety Instruments

- Lifting Appliances and Anchor Handling Winches (MSC.532(107))
- PFOS Prohibition in Firefighting Media (MSC.532(107), MSC.536(107), MSC.537(107))
- Electronic Inclinometers for new bulk carriers and containerships $\geq 3,000$ GT (MSC.532(107))
- Polar Code Expansion (Phase 2) for non-SOLAS ships (MSC.538(107), MSC.532(107))
- LSA Code ventilation standards for totally enclosed lifeboats (MSC.535(107))

B. MARPOL & Environmental Instruments

- SEEMP Updates – Verification of Parts II & III (MEPC.395(82))
- Reporting of Lost Containers – MARPOL Protocol I & SOLAS V (MEPC.386(81), MSC.532(107))

C. Cargo & Training Codes

- IMDG Code Amendment 42-24 (MSC.556(108))
- IGC & IGF Codes – Cryogenic materials, high-manganese steel (MSC.523(106), MSC.524(106))
- Grain Code Updates – Loading conditions (MSC.552(108))
- STCW Code Amendments – Training on bullying, harassment, and violence prevention (MSC.560(108))

3. Annex – Summary Table of Instruments Effective 1 January 2026

Instrument / Code	Resolution(s)	Applicability / Key Requirement
SOLAS II-1/3-13 – Lifting appliances & winches	MSC.532(107)	Applies to new & existing ships; testing at renewal survey



Date: / / التاريخ :
Ref. No: الإشاري :

PFOS prohibition in firefighting media	MSC.532(107), MSC.536(107), MSC.537(107)	Ban on PFOS-based extinguishing agents in all ships
Electronic inclinometers	MSC.532(107)	Mandatory for new bulk carriers & containerships $\geq 3,000$ GT
Polar Code Phase 2 expansion	MSC.538(107), MSC.532(107)	Voyage planning requirements extended to non-SOLAS ships
LSA Code ventilation standards	MSC.535(107)	New ventilation standards for totally enclosed lifeboats
SEEMP verification (Parts II & III)	MEPC.395(82)	Mandatory verification & approval of SEEMP updates
Reporting of lost containers	MEPC.386(81), MSC.532(107)	Mandatory reporting under MARPOL Protocol I & SOLAS V
IMDG Code Amendment 42-24	MSC.556(108)	Updated dangerous goods requirements
IGC & IGF Codes – Cryogenic materials	MSC.523(106), MSC.524(106)	Use of high-manganese austenitic steel permitted
Grain Code updates	MSC.552(108)	Revised loading conditions for special compartments
STCW Code amendments	MSC.560(108)	Training standards on bullying, harassment, violence prevention

4. IMO Instruments Entering into Force Later in 2026

A. Environmental Instruments

- **New Emission Control Areas (ECAs)**
 - Canadian Arctic and Norwegian Sea designated as ECAs for SOx/NOx emissions
 - Resolution MEPC.392(82)
 - Effective date: 1 March 2026
- **NOx Technical Code Amendments**
 - Certification requirements for modified engines
 - Resolution MEPC.398(83)
 - Effective date: 1 September 2026

B. Cargo & Safety Codes

- **Use of Cargo as Fuel (Gas Carriers)**

- New safety provisions for gas carriers using cargo as fuel
- Resolution MSC.566(109)
- Effective date: 1 July 2026

5. Action Required

All shipowners, operators, and managers must:

- Review onboard systems and documentation against the above amendments.
- Coordinate with Classification Societies and Recognized Organizations for timely compliance.

Kind Regards,

Eng. Mohammed Salim Abduljalil

President of LP&MTA



السيد / نائب رئيس المصلحة للشؤون البحريّة

السيد / مدير إدارة الشؤون البحرية

السيد / رئيس قسم متابعة الاتفاقيات الدولية

السيد / مدير مكتب التقييم ومتابعة الأداء

الصادر

1

كـ.. الدـب .. كـ.. الدـب ..