

MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE
89th session
Agenda item 9

MSC 89/9/5
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STABILITY AND LOAD LINES AND FISHING VESSEL SAFETY

Concept of a reduced gross tonnage

Submitted by Germany

SUMMARY

Executive summary: Following the discussion in the Sub-Committee and, in particular, some of the concluding remarks regarding the need to further enhance working and living conditions on board, the delegation of Germany would like to propose another option to improve the effect on ship design and safety within the 1969 TM Convention in this respect

Strategic direction: 2

High-level action: 2.1.1

Planned output: 2.1.1.2

Action to be taken: Paragraph 7

Related documents: 1969 TM Convention; and SLF 53/ WP.1, section 5, paragraph 5.5

Background

1 The Sub-Committee on Stability and Load Lines and on Fishing Vessels Safety, at its fifty-third session, with regard to the options to improve the effect on ship design and safety within the 1969 TM Convention, discussed under agenda item 5 (Guidelines to improve the effect of the 1969 TM Convention on ship design and safety) among other issues the use of gross tonnage figures as parameters for the applicability of standards concerning living and working conditions on ships and fishing vessels.

2 Some delegations, including ILO, criticized, that many of today's fees (including fairway dues) and shipping regulations, especially in the fishing sector, are governed by the gross tonnage defined by the 1969 TM Convention. In this respect ships with larger accommodation spaces for the crews are punished by a larger GT.

3 Commercial arguments have a detrimental effect on the human element, in this regard good working and living conditions.

Scope of the proposal

4 Therefore, the delegation of Germany wishes to propose – similar to what has been accepted for the measurement of open-top container ships and segregated water ballast systems on tankers – that a reduction for accommodation and crew provision be covered under remarks in the last page of the TM Certificates. Such deduction may be calculated as follows:

$$GT' = K1 \times (V - V \text{ crew})$$

where:

V = Total volume of all enclosed spaces of the ship in cubic metres;

V crew = Total volume of all enclosed spaces, which are necessary for the accommodation and provision of the crew, including cabins, passageways, staircases, galleys, provision stores, mess rooms change rooms, hospitals, gymnasiums, recreation rooms, laundry, etc.; and

$$K1 = 0,2 + 0,02 \log 10 V$$

5 As described above, the thus amended gross tonnage should be shown as a remark on page 4 of the International Tonnage Certificate (ITC 69), thus inviting flag States and/or port authorities to make use of this additional figure in the Certificate when incentives for better working and living conditions are sought.

6 The gross tonnage as described by the 1969 TM Convention would remain unchanged.

Action requested of the Committee

7 The Committee is requested to note the above information and take action as deemed appropriate.
