



MARITIME AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA

Circular No.	06-11-06
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JULY 2005 AMENDMENTS TO FAL

The amendments are intended to modernize the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic, 1965 in order to enhance the facilitation of international maritime traffic.

The amendments include the following:

- a Recommended Practice for public authorities to develop the necessary procedures in order to use pre-arrival and pre-departure information to facilitate the processing of information, and thus expedite release and clearance of cargo and persons;
- a Recommended Practice that all information should be submitted to a single point to avoid duplication;
- encouragement of electronic transmission of information; and
- the addition of references to the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code and SOLAS chapter XI-2 in the Standards and Recommended Practices which mention security measures; and
- amendments to the IMO Standardized FAL Forms (1 to 7).

Persons rescued at sea

As amendments to the SOLAS and SAR Conventions adopted in May 2004 (expected to enter into force on 1 July 2006), relating to persons rescued at sea will place for the first time, obligations on Contracting Governments to "co-ordinate and co-operate" in progressing the matter so that assisted survivors are disembarked from the assisting ship and delivered to a place of safety within a reasonable time; a further amendment relates to persons rescued at sea, to be included in a standard in **Section 2 - Arrival, stay and departure of the ship**, in section H *Special measures of facilitation for ships calling at ports in order to put ashore sick or injured crew members, passengers, persons rescued at sea or other persons for emergency medical treatment*. The amendment will require public authorities to facilitate the arrival and departure of ships engaged in the rescue of persons in distress at sea in order to provide a place of safety for such persons.

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