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MSC.1/Circ.1658  
28 November 2022

### **GUIDANCE ON DISTRESS ALERTS**

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its 106th session (2 to 11 November 2022), approved the revised *Guidance on distress alerts*, as set out in the annex, prepared by the Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR), at its ninth session (21 to 30 June 2022).

2 This circular describes the operating procedure for a distress alert, in accordance with chapter IV of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974.

3 Member Governments are invited to bring the annexed Guidance to the attention of their shipowners, seafarers and all other parties concerned.

4 This circular becomes effective on 1 January 2024, superseding COMSAR/Circ.45 as from that date.

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ANNEX

GUIDANCE ON DISTRESS ALERTS

