

Measures Regarding Maritime Transport Safety

1 Improvement of Maritime Traffic Environment

In view of the growth in size of vessels, higher speed of ships, diversification of coastal sea area utilization, more complex vessel traffic and others, and in order to ensure safe and smooth navigation and safety in ports, it is intended to develop shipping routes, ports and harbors, fishing ports, Aids to Navigations and others and enhance information regarding safety such as charts, Sailing Directions, real-time tidal currents and others as well as to establish information provision systems using IT. In addition to making efforts to prevent accidents and mitigate damage by conducting accurate monitoring on natural phenomena that affect maritime traffic and by issuing and disseminating forecasts and warnings in a timely manner, the measures referred to in the Section 3 Chapter 1 in Part I will be taken in order to enhance the content of the information and to make its effective use. In addition, not only the operational use and improvement of prediction models of waves and storm surge are performed, but also it is intended to improve the precision and content of the marine forecasts and warnings so as to be fully utilized in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System.

The development of facilities at passenger ship and ferry terminals will be promoted so that all users including the elderly and disabled people can use them safely and with reduced physical burden.

In addition to taking measures designed to check the implementation status of security measures in international port facilities based on the law (Law 31 of 2004) aimed at securing security of international voyage ships and international port facilities and to foster personnel, the immigration management at the port facilities will be enhanced and security measures in ports and harbors strengthened.

- ① Development of maritime traffic environment
- ② Enhance the provision of information on maritime traffic
- ③ Develop cruiser terminals for the elderly, disabled people, etc.
- ④ Promote safety measures in ports

2 Ensuring Safe Operation of Boats and Ships

It is intended to secure safe vessel navigation by improving qualifications of seafarers and establishing systems for safe navigation.

To this end, it is intended to improve qualifications of seamen, pilots, passenger ship operators and coastal shipping operators, strengthen the inspection of work conditions at sea, and promote the supervision of foreign vessels as well as implement measures to prevent recurrence of serious accidents. In addition, the national campaign for traffic safety and the comprehensive safety check of transport, etc. in the year-end and New Year season will be made the most of to promote safety measures.

In the transport safety management system, so far, the road transport operators built and improved the safety management organization through unified, company-wide efforts and the national government checked it for the implementation status for an increasingly larger number of operators. In the future, the national campaign for traffic safety and the comprehensive safety check of transport, etc. in the year-end and New Year season will be made the most of to further improve the effectiveness of the system, and to encourage the dissemination of this concept to all the operators to enhance and strengthen the system. In addition, it is intended to make efforts in a planned manner with a view to preventing disaster at sea, for example, by means of the promotion for dissemination of the guideline on the “Occupational Safety and Health Management System” in which ship owners voluntarily provide a series of processes on risk assessment and PDCA cycles related to seafarer disaster to conduct continuous and step-by-step improvement of safety and health.

It is intended to conduct studies on the causes of past accidents on ongoing basis to contribute to the reduction in damage and the prevention of recurrence of accidents at sea.

- ① Enhance operational management of ships
- ② Secure qualifications of seamen
- ③ Promote measures to prevent accidents and disasters at sea
- ④ Ensure safety by means of pilotage system
- ⑤ Promote the supervision of foreign vessels
- ⑥ Introduce the latest navigational equipment

3 Augmentation of Safety Measures for Small Vessels, etc.

Maritime accidents of small boats such as fishing boats, pleasure boats and others account for 70% of the total number of maritime accidents. In light of this situation, it is indispensable that marine leisure enthusiasts and fishermen enhance safety awareness and that environment for safe navigation is developed and rescue systems strengthened.

To this end, it is intended to develop boat parks, provide safety measures for small boats, encourage an orderly use of coastlines, raise boats' operators' awareness about the use of life-jackets as well as the pre-sailing inspection and other rules, and promote the dissemination of simple AIS, supply of information using ICT, enhancement of a highly mobile rescue system, etc.

Furthermore, based on the fundamental program for seafarer disaster prevention and its implementation, it is promoted to establish plans for the prevention of accidents at sea.

- ① Promote safety measures for small boats, etc.
- ② Increase life-jacket usage rate
- ③ Promote safety measures for pleasure boats, etc.
- ④ Develop boat parks, fish arenas, etc.
- ⑤ Promote safety measures for fishing boats, etc.