



Merchant Shipping Directorate



## FIRE AND ABANDON SHIP DRILLS

**Technical Notice SLS.5 Rev.2**

*Notice to Shipowners, Ship Operators, Managers, Masters,  
Owners' Representatives and Recognised Organisations*

Fire and Abandon Ship Drills onboard all Maltese flagged cargo ships, as required in Regulation 19.3 of Chapter III of SOLAS 74, as amended, shall be carried out at fortnightly intervals.

Fire and Abandon Ship Drills onboard all Maltese flagged passenger ships are to be carried out at weekly intervals as prescribed in Regulation 30.2 of Chapter III of SOLAS 74, as amended.

The attention of all concerned is drawn to the Guidelines on safety during abandon ship drills when using lifeboats, as contained in [MSC.1/Circ.1578](#) which supersedes Annex 2 to MSC.1/Circ.1206/Rev.1. Simulated launching of free-fall lifeboats should be carried out in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Due note shall be taken of the Guidelines for simulated launching of free-fall lifeboats, as contained in the appendix of MSC.1/Circ.1578.

Furthermore, the Guidelines emphasize that before conducting drills, the lifeboat and its equipment should be thoroughly checked to ensure that it has been maintained in accordance with the ship's maintenance manuals and with any associated technical documents. The Guidelines require also that all the precautionary measures necessary are noted and exercised. Reference is to be made to the Revised Guidelines for Developing Operation and Maintenance Manuals for Lifeboats Systems, as contained in [MSC.1/Circ.1205/Rev.1](#).

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Transport Malta is the Authority for Transport in Malta set up by Act XV of 2009



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