



Merchant Shipping Directorate



## ESCAPE ARRANGEMENTS FROM THE LOWER PART OF MACHINERY SPACES

### *Technical Notice SLS.39*

*Notice to Ship-owners, Ship Operators, Managers, Masters,  
Owners' Representatives and Recognized Organizations*

The Directorate would like to draw the attention of all concerned to the outcome of the 110<sup>th</sup> session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee regarding the interpretation of SOLAS regulations II-2/13.4.1 and 13.4.2 on the term "*lower part*" used in connection with the means of escape from spaces below the bulkhead deck for passenger ships, and from machinery spaces of category A for cargo ships.

Reference is being made to IMO Circular [MSC.1/Circ.1689](#) regarding the work arrangement and port State inspection on ship escape arrangements from the lower part of machinery spaces under the requirement of SOLAS regulations II-2/13.4.1 and 13.4.2.

Such a Circular invites PSC Authorities to adopt a pragmatic approach during the inspections to such escape arrangements, while the Committee would work on a long-term clarification on this issue, as may be necessary.

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