

EMERGENCY POSITION-INDICATING RADIO BEACONS  
RESOLUTION A.91 (IV) adopted on 27 September 1965

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME  
CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION

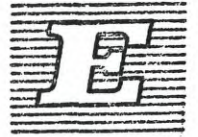


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ASSEMBLY - 4th session  
Agenda item 6

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THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Resolution A.54(III) which referred back to the Maritime Safety Committee for examination the matter of the operational frequencies of the emergency position-indicating radio beacons to which Recommendation 48 of the International Conference on Safety of Life at Sea, 1960, relates,

HAVING CONSIDERED the views of the Maritime Safety Committee (as set out in the Annex to this Resolution) regarding the operational requirements of these radio beacons,

NOTING that the Committee's views have been transmitted to the International Telecommunication Union so that the radio characteristics of the beacons can be determined as envisaged by Recommendation 48,

DECIDES

- (a) to affirm the Committee's views on the operational requirements for such radio beacons;
- (b) to invite the Secretary-General to disseminate to Member States and States which participated in the International Conference on Safety of Life at Sea, 1960, a copy of this Resolution;

- 2 -

A.IV/Res.91

- (c) to authorize the Maritime Safety Committee to examine as necessary the conclusions reached by the ITU on the characteristics of these beacons and to arrange for dissemination of information accordingly.

ANNEX

Emergency position-indicating radio beacons

As required by Assembly Resolution A.54(III), the Committee re-examined the question of the operational frequency and other radio characteristics of these beacons in the light of comments made by certain Member Governments. The views of the Committee were as follows:

- (1) The beacons are intended primarily for homing;
- (2) stations expected to receive the transmissions from the beacons are primarily ships and SAR aircraft;
- (3) except in areas with difficult propagation characteristics, the signals from the beacon must be receivable at a distance of at least 30 nautical miles at sea level;
- (4) the frequency of 2182 kc/s is recommended as a first choice operational frequency for the radio beacons. It should, however, rest with Administrations to determine whether the equipment should allow for the use of a second or more frequencies and, if so, to decide on the choice of those frequencies;
- (5) the beacons should transmit intermittently;

- 3 -

A.IV/Res.91

- (6) if it is possible, within the specifications stated above, the beacon may also be used for alerting in appropriate circumstances. In that event, the beacon should incorporate a characteristic identifying signal. The CCIR should investigate whether this signal could serve also as an alerting signal or whether the two-tone signal should be introduced for those cases where no alerting had been possible by other means.
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