



## **ANNEX 15**

### **RESOLUTION MSC.594(111) (adopted on 21 May 2026)**

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE REVISED RECOMMENDATION ON TESTING OF LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES (RESOLUTION MSC.81(70))**

THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE,

RECALLING Article 28(b) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Committee,

RECALLING ALSO that the Assembly, when adopting resolution A.689(17) on *Testing of life-saving appliances*, authorized the Committee to keep the annexed Recommendation on testing of life-saving appliances under review and to adopt, when appropriate, amendments thereto,

RECALLING FURTHER that, since the adoption of resolution A.689(17), the Committee has amended the Recommendation annexed thereto by resolutions MSC.54(66) and MSC.81(70), and by circulars MSC/Circ.596, MSC/Circ.615 and MSC/Circ.809,

RECOGNIZING the need to ensure that the references in the *Revised recommendation on testing of life-saving appliances* (resolution MSC.81(70)) are kept up to date,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the amendments to the LSA Code adopted by resolution MSC.589(111) with respect to the arrangements to test the release system under load without launching the free-fall lifeboat into the water,

1 ADOPTS the *Amendments to the Revised recommendation on testing of life-saving appliances* (resolution MSC.81(70)), set out in the annex to the present resolution;

2 RECOMMENDS that Governments ensure that arrangements to test the release system under load without launching the free-fall lifeboat installed on or after 1 January 2031, conform to the amended prototype, production and installation tests as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

3 INVITES Contracting Governments to the SOLAS Convention to bring the above amendments to the attention of all parties concerned.

## ANNEX

### AMENDMENTS TO THE REVISED RECOMMENDATION ON TESTING OF LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES (RESOLUTION MSC.81(70))

#### PART 1 – PROTOTYPE TESTS FOR LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES

##### **6 Lifeboats**

##### **6.9 Release mechanism test**

1 Paragraph 6.9.7 is replaced by the following:

"6.9.7 The release mechanism should be mounted on a tensile strength testing device. The load should be increased to at least six times the maximum working load of the release mechanism without failure of the release mechanism."

2 The following new paragraph 6.9.8 is added after existing paragraph 6.9.7:

"6.9.8 The arrangement to test the release system without launching the lifeboat into the water, as required by paragraph 4.7.7 of the LSA Code, should be mounted on a tensile strength testing device. The load should be increased to at least six times the maximum working load with full complement of persons and equipment of the arrangement to test the release system without failure."

##### **7 Rescue boats and fast rescue boats**

##### **7.1 Rigid rescue boats**

3 Paragraph 7.1.1 is replaced by the following:

"7.1.1 Rigid rescue boats should be subjected to the tests prescribed in 6.2 to 6.12 (except 6.3, 6.4.2, 6.5, 6.6.2, 6.7.1, 6.9.6 to 6.9.8, 6.10.1) and 7.2.4.2."

##### **7.4 Rigid fast rescue boats**

4 Paragraph 7.4.1 (as amended by resolution MSC.544(107)) is replaced by the following:

"7.4.1 Rigid fast rescue boats should be subjected to the tests prescribed in 6.2 to 6.12 (except 6.3, 6.4.2, 6.5, 6.6.2, 6.7.1, 6.9.6 to 6.9.8, 6.10.1), 6.14.1 to 6.14.8 (if a rigid fast rescue boat is self-righting), 7.1.2 to 7.1.4, 7.1.6, 7.1.7 (if a rigid fast rescue boat is not self-righting), 7.1.8, 7.1.9 and 7.2.4.2. In the case of open fast rescue boats, the self-righting test should only be done in the light condition, and 6.14.1.1, 6.14.3 to 6.14.5 and 6.14.9 are not applicable. With regard to 6.14.2, a boat fitted with a helmsman's emergency release switch should be considered to be arranged to stop automatically when inverted."

## **PART 2 – PRODUCTION AND INSTALLATION TESTS**

### **6 Launching and stowage arrangements**

#### **6.1 Launching appliances using falls and winches**

5 Paragraph 6.1.1 is replaced by the following:

*"Factory overload test*

6.1.1 Each launching appliance, except the winch, should be tested with a static load of 2.2 times the working load with the appliance in the full outboard position. For a free-fall lifeboat launching appliance, each launching ramp and its connection to the release mechanism should be tested with a static load of 2.2 times the working load. The appliance should not be deformed or damaged. Winches with the brakes applied should be tested by applying a static load of 1.5 times the maximum working load. Any cast components of the frame and arm should be hammer-tested to determine that they are sound and without flaw. The arrangement to test the release system under load without launching the free-fall lifeboat into the water should be tested with a load of 2.2 times the calculated maximum working load of the arrangement utilizing properly distributed weights to represent the full complement of persons and equipment. The arrangement should not be deformed or damaged."

\*\*\*

