



Ref. T4/8.02

REPORT ON FISHING VESSELS AND FISHERMEN STATISTICS

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its fifty-eighth session (21 to 25 May 1990), approved MSC/Circ.539 requesting Member Governments to submit reports, in accordance with the form contained in the annex to the Circular, relating to past major casualties to fishing vessels and fishermen for the period 1986 to 1989. A simplified report form was circulated by MSC/Circ.539/Add.2.

2 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its sixty-sixth session (28 May to 6 June 1996), noting that the Assembly, at its sixteenth session, urged the Committee, through resolution A.646(16) - Safety of fishermen at sea, to consider casualty statistics for fishing vessels and fishermen, as a matter of high priority, in order to develop at a later stage appropriate amendments to conventions and codes to improve the safety of fishermen at sea, noted also with concern that only a few countries have so far submitted reports on fishing vessels and fishermen casualties, and that the limited information available has not allowed the FSI Sub-Committee to meet the basic objectives established in the aforementioned resolution.

3 The Committee, therefore, invited Member Governments to submit information on casualties to fishing vessels, irrespective of whether the fishing vessels are defined by length or by tonnage and the respective fishermen casualties, to enable the FSI Sub-Committee to prepare the relevant database.