



**REPUBLIC OF
THE MARSHALL ISLANDS**
MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Notice
No. 2-011-15
Rev. Feb/2018

**TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF
MERCHANT SHIPS, AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS**

**SUBJECT: Plans for Cooperation Between Search and Rescue Services and Passenger
Vessels**

References: (a) SOLAS, *International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea*, Consolidated Edition 2014, as amended
(b) IMO Circular [MSC.1/Circ.1079/Rev.1](#), *Guidelines for preparing plans for cooperation between search and rescue services and passenger ships*, issued 16 June 2017
(c) RMI Marine Notice [2-011-13](#), *International Safety Management (ISM) Code*

PURPOSE:

This Marine Notice sets out the requirement for passenger ships to have plans on board for coordination with search and rescue (SAR) services. This Notice supersedes Rev. 8/06, and has been updated to reflect the current SOLAS requirement and, in particular, the revised guidelines, IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1079/Rev.1, *Guidelines for preparing plans for cooperation between search and rescue services and passenger ships*

APPLICABILITY:

This Notice applies to all passenger ships to which SOLAS Chapter I applies.

REQUIREMENTS:

1.0 SAR Plan

- 1.1 A passenger ship must have a plan on board for cooperation with the appropriate SAR services in event of an emergency according to SOLAS Regulation V/7.3.
- 1.2 The SAR plan must be based on IMO Circular [MSC.1/Circ.1079/Rev.1](#).
- 1.3 The SAR plan must not replace a company's more detailed emergency response plans. These may already be part of its SAR services arrangements or safety management system (SMS) mandated under the ISM Code. Rather, these are to be linked by the SAR

plan so a three-part response (ship, company, and SAR service) is coordinated effectively and efficiently.

- 1.4 On RMI-flagged vessels, the SMS must be maintained in accordance with Marine Notice [2-011-13](#), *International Safety Management (ISM) Code*.
- 1.5 The information in each SAR plan is to be kept up-to-date. Its review, updating and auditing is to be conducted as part of the ISM SMS.

2.0 Periodic Exercises

- 2.1 The SAR plan is to be exercised periodically based on the circumstances in which the ship operates, but not more than once in any twelve-month period.
- 2.2 Exercises are to be formally recorded by the ship, company and SAR service and a record kept aboard the ship for inspection.