



IMSO NEWS 037

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CANADA ACCEPTS AMENDMENTS TO THE IMSO CONVENTION

The IMSO Director General, Captain Esteban Pacha-Vicente, today announced that, on 2 June 2010, Canada accepted the amendments to the IMSO Convention. This acceptance was executed by the transmission to the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), as Depositary of the IMSO Convention, of formal acceptance signed and sealed on 31 May 2010 by His Excellency Mr Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada.

The amendments to the IMSO Convention were adopted by the IMSO Assembly at its Twentieth Session, held in Malta, on 2 October 2008. In summary, the amendments relate to the extension of oversight of the GMDSS to other potential satellite providers, and the duties and responsibilities of IMSO as LRIT Coordinator appointed by IMO.

The amendments entered into force on the basis of provisional application from 6 October 2008, pending their formal entry into force. The amendments will enter formally into force 120 days after receipt of notice from two-thirds of States which were IMSO Parties at the time of adoption, at which time they will become binding for all IMSO Parties.

The Director General today reaffirmed his request to other Member States to expedite the process of accepting the amendments in order to ensure their formal entry into force, and remains available to provide any assistance in this matter.