



# Recommendation of the Council concerning Substandard Ships

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## **Date(s)**

Adopted on 22/07/1977

## **Background Information**

The Recommendation concerning Substandard Ships was adopted by the OECD Council on 22 July 1977 on the proposal of the Maritime Transport Committee (which no longer exists as its mandate expired on 31 December 2008). Addressing the growing concern among maritime and coastal states of the dangers which are posed in the fields of maritime safety and maritime pollution by ships which do not meet internationally agreed standards, the Recommendation recommends that Adherents undertake all necessary measures to fully comply with standards and procedures to minimum standards of ships.

**THE COUNCIL,**

**HAVING REGARD** to Article 5 b) of the Convention on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development of 14 December 1960;

**NOTING** the growing concern among maritime and coastal states of the dangers which are posed in the fields of maritime safety and marine pollution by ships which do not meet internationally agreed standards;

**CONSIDERING** that the 62nd Session (Maritime) of the International Labour Conference adopted on 29 October 1976 a Convention (No. 147) concerning Minimum Standards in Merchant Ships [Merchant Shipping (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1976] and a Recommendation (No. 155) concerning the Improvement of Standards in Merchant Ships [Merchant Shipping (Minimum Standards) Recommendation, 1976];

**CONSIDERING** that the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organisation adopted, on 12 November 1975, a Resolution [A.321(IX)] on Procedures for the Control of Ships supported by a document entitled "Substandard Ships: Guidelines on Control Procedures";

**On the proposal of the Maritime Transport Committee;**

**RECOMMENDS** that the Governments of Member countries undertake all necessary measures to give full compliance within their jurisdictions to the minimum standards and procedures relating to matters contained in the above-mentioned international instruments.

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- **Recommendations:** OECD legal instruments which are not legally binding but practice accords them great moral force as representing the political will of Adherents. There is an expectation that Adherents will do their utmost to fully implement a Recommendation. Thus, Members which do not intend to do so usually abstain when a Recommendation is adopted, although this is not required in legal terms.
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