Council of the European Union

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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the International Maritime Organization during the 110th session of the Maritime Safety Committee as regards the adoption of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, the 1994 International Code of Safety for High-Speed Craft (1994 HSC Code) and the 2000 International Code of Safety for High-Speed Craft (2000 HSC Code) *- Adoption*

INTRODUCTION

1. On 22 May 2025, the Commission transmitted the above-mentioned proposal to the Council.

2. The proposal concerns the establishment of the Union position during the 110th session of the Maritime Safety Committee ('MSC 110') of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) as regards the adoption of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, the 1994 International Code of Safety for High-Speed Craft ('1994 HSC Code') and the 2000 International Code of Safety for High-Speed Craft ('2000 HSC Code').

3. The amendments to SOLAS, the 1994 HSC Code and the 2000 HSC Code, which are expected to be adopted during MSC 110, will be capable of decisively influencing the content of Union law, namely Directive 2009/45/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council[1] and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/1975[2].

4. The amendments are in line with the Union's objectives to improve maritime safety and to protect the marine environment and human health, in particular by improving health and safety conditions for pilots, and by ensuring better protection of infants.

WORK WITHIN THE COUNCIL PREPARATORY BODIES

5. The proposal was examined by the Shipping Working Party on 19 and 26 May 2025, based on an informal advance copy of the Commission proposal. The Presidency compromise proposal presented at that last meeting was accepted by delegations.

6. The Shipping Working Party agreed to adapt the proposal, as far as relevant, to previous similar Council Decisions, including safeguards on the division of competences between the Union and the Member States and on the exercise of competence by the adoption of this Council Decision.

7. The Commission voiced concerns on some of the amendments made to its original proposal.

8. Following the agreement reached at working party level, the text of the draft Council Decision was revised by the Council's legal-linguistic services.

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[1] Directive 2009/45/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 May 2009 on safety rules and standards for passenger ships (OJ L 163, 25.6.2009, p. 1).

[2] Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/1975 of 19 July 2024 laying down rules for the application of Directive 2014/90/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, as regards design, construction and performance requirements and testing standards for marine equipment and repealing Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/1667 (OJ L, 2024/1975, 26.7.2024).

ACTION REQUESTED

9. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to examine and endorse the draft decision, as set out in document ST 9465/25, prepared by the legal-linguistic experts, and transmit it to the Council with a view to adoption at a future session.

10. The European Parliament will be informed of the adoption in accordance with Article 218(10) TFEU.