SHIP/PORT INTERFACE

Availability of tug assistance

1 The Facilitation Committee at its thirtieth session (27 to 31 January 2003), the Maritime Safety Committee at its seventy-seventh session (28 May to 6 June 2003) and the Marine Environment Protection Committee at its forty-ninth session (14 to 18 July 2003), recognizing the importance of the provision of adequate tug assistance in ports for ensuring maritime and port safety, the protection of the marine environment and the facilitation of maritime traffic, approved the issuance of this circular to assist port authorities and port operators in assessing the adequacy of the tug services in their ports.

2 The annex to this circular, which contains a detailed list of the contents of the fourth edition of the publication "Tug Use in Port – A Practical Guide," provides guidance for conducting such an assessment. At present this publication is only available in English.

3 Member States are invited to bring this circular to the attention of administrations, port authorities, port operators, pilot organizations and tug services.

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