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MSC.1/Circ.1658 28 November 2022

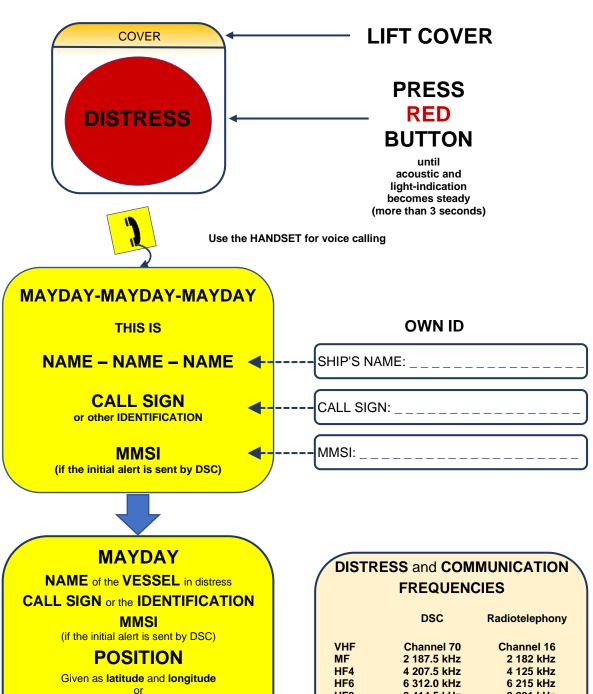
GUIDANCE ON DISTRESS ALERTS

- 1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its 106th session (2 to 11 November 2022), approved the revised *Guidance on distress alerts*, as set out in the annex, prepared by the Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR), at its ninth session (21 to 30 June 2022).
- This circular describes the operating procedure for a distress alert, in accordance with chapter IV of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974.
- 3 Member Governments are invited to bring the annexed Guidance to the attention of their shipowners, seafarers and all other parties concerned.
- This circular becomes effective on 1 January 2024, superseding COMSAR/Circ.45 as from that date.



ANNEX

GUIDANCE ON DISTRESS ALERTS



If latitude and longitude are not known or if the time is insufficient, in relation to a known geographical location

NATURE of distress

Kind of **ASSISTANCE** required

Any other useful **INFORMATION**

	DSC	Radiotelephony
VHF	Channel 70	Channel 16
MF	2 187.5 kHz	2 182 kHz
HF4	4 207.5 kHz	4 125 kHz
HF6	6 312.0 kHz	6 215 kHz
HF8	8 414.5 kHz	8 291 kHz
HF12	12 577.0 kHz	12 290 kHz
HF16	16 804.5 kHz	16 420 kHz

Remember to use the correct HF procedures. Do not forget, your EPIRB is the secondary means of alerting