

Resolution A.794(19)
adopted on 23 November 1995
(Agenda item 10)

SURVEYS AND INSPECTIONS OF RO-RO PASSENGER SHIPS

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Article 15(j) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Assembly in relation to regulations and guidelines concerning maritime safety,

NOTING that several ro-ro passenger ships have been subjected to serious casualties, some of which have resulted in severe loss of life,

NOTING ALSO that not all safety incidents on ro-ro ships have been reported to the appropriate authorities,

CONVINCED that the safety of ro-ro passenger ships would be improved by increasing the number and extent of surveys and inspections carried out on such ships,

HAVING CONSIDERED the recommendation made by the Maritime Safety Committee at its sixty-fifth session,

1. URGES Administrations to conduct, or arrange for the conduct of, unscheduled inspections of ro-ro passenger ships, in addition to the renewal and periodical surveys required by the relevant international conventions in force;
2. RECOMMENDS that such unscheduled inspections should, in particular, address aspects of an operational nature such as the familiarization of crew members with, and their effectiveness in, safety procedures, emergency procedures, maintenance, safe manning, working practices, passenger safety, bridge procedures and cargo and vehicle related operations;
3. FURTHER URGES Governments to ensure that they are promptly made aware of any damage to, or permanent deflection of, shell doors and associated hull plating that may affect the integrity of ro-ro ships, and of any deficiencies in the securing arrangements of such doors;
4. REQUESTS the Maritime Safety Committee to develop, as a matter of urgency, guidelines for unscheduled inspections of ro-ro passenger ships, taking into account the guidelines existing and presently being developed by recognized organizations.