

To all members of the HNS
Correspondence Group

Direct Line: +44(0)20 7944 5452
Divisional Enquiries: +020 7944 5424
Fax: 020 7944 2186
GTN No: 3533
E-mail: John_Wren@detr.gsi.gov.uk

Web Site: www.dft.gov.uk

11 June 2002

Launch of the Correspondence Group web-site

Dear colleagues

Further to the discussions at the 84th session of the IMO Legal Committee (LEG 84) on monitoring the implementation of the HNS Convention, I am writing with reference to the web-site that has been developed on implementation of the Convention (see para.118 of the LEG 84).

The web-site will operate along the same lines as the web-site established for the IMO Correspondence Group dealing with the revision of the Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea, 1974. The address of the site is: <http://folk.uio.no/erikro/WWW/HNS/hns.html>

I am very grateful to Professor Rosæg for setting up this web-site. The site is very easy to use and contains a great deal of relevant and useful information, including:

- general information on the HNS Convention itself;
- the overview to the HNS Convention as agreed at LEG 84;
- reports of previous informal consultative meetings on the HNS Convention, and reports of the work of the Correspondence Group to previous LEG sessions;
- State's implementing legislation;
- Useful industry contacts, academic papers and other very useful information.

The web-site also contains one e-mail address for all members of the Correspondence Group, as well as the papers already drafted by Canada and Norway on compliance and verification and insurance, and a paper drafted previously by the Netherlands on the issue of "receiver". I will also circulate copies of these papers electronically shortly. I am aware that all members of the Correspondence Group may not have ready access to the internet though. Subsequently, I intend to circulate all correspondence to the Group, for the foreseeable future, in the same manner as has previously been the case.



It is intended that the web-site will be updated as the Correspondence Group continues with its work. The web-site will be a very useful source of information for Member States, and industry, in seeking to overcome some of the complexities of the Convention, as well as a helpful resource base for information, and responding to enquiries. In this respect I encourage those States that are members of the Correspondence Group to circulate the address of the web-site to their national industry organisations, and other NGO's, who have an interest in the HNS Convention.

I will circulate further correspondence to the Group over the coming weeks on the proposed work of the Group up to LEG 85 in October focussing on, in particular:

- comparisons in States implementing legislation;
- the papers developed by Norway, Canada and Netherlands on insurance, verification and compliance and issue of "receiver", and
- reasons why Governments should join the HNS regime (see para 122 of LEG 84 Report).

Regards

John Wren