The Maritime Safety Committee, at its eighty-fourth session (7 to 16 May 2008), approved the Recommendations on the safe use of pesticides in ships applicable to the fumigation of cargo holds (MSC.1/Circ.1264), which apply to the carriage of solid bulk cargoes, including grain, in pursuance of the requirement of SOLAS regulation VI/4.

The Maritime Safety Committee, at its eighty-ninth session (11 to 20 May 2011), approved the following amendment to section 5 (Safety Precautions – General) of the aforementioned Recommendations, as prepared by the Sub-Committee on Dangerous Goods, Solid Cargoes and Containers (DSC) at its fifteenth session:

"5.3 Fire risk

5.3.1 When Phosphine generating formulations are used to fumigate, any collected residue may ignite."

Member Governments are invited to bring the above amendment to the Recommendations to the attention of competent authorities, seafarers, fumigators, fumigant and pesticide manufacturers and others concerned.