

Safety rules and standards for passenger ships

2002/0075(COD) - 14/04/2003 - Final act

PURPOSE : to strengthen the safety rules and standards for passenger ships. **COMMUNITY MEASURE** : Directive 2003/24/EC of the European Parliament of the Council amending Council Directive 98/18/EC on safety rules and standards for passenger ships. **CONTENT** : Council Directive 98/18/EC on safety rules and standards for passenger ships introduces a uniform level of safety of life and property on new and existing passenger ships and high-speed passenger craft, when both categories of ships and craft are engaged on domestic voyages, and lays down procedures for negotiation at international level with a view to a harmonisation of the rules for passenger ships engaged on international voyages. This amendment to the existing Directive provides for stability requirements and phasing out of ro-ro passenger ships, safety rules for passenger ships to include new safety requirements for high speed ships, for passengers with reduced mobility and for ro-ro ships operating on domestic voyages in Member States. The term "persons with reduced mobility" shall mean anyone which has a particular difficulty when using public transport, including elderly persons, disabled persons, persons with sensory impairments and wheelchair users, pregnant women and person accompanying small children. **ENTRY INTO FORCE** : 17 May 2003. **TRANSPOSITION** : 17 November 2004.