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## **TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEMES**

## Temporary adjustment of the traffic separation scheme "In the Bass Strait"

## Note by the Government of Australia

1 The Government of Australia had informed the Organization in November 2001 that it would make a temporary change to one of the Traffic Separation Schemes (TSSs) "In the Bass Strait" on the south east coast of Australia at 0000 hours UTC on 1 March 2002. The adjustment was to allow for the drilling of petroleum exploration wells. The change essentially involved widening the separation zone to 6 miles and shifting the eastbound lane 4.5 miles to the south. The westbound lane remained unchanged. This information was circulated to all Member Governments vide COLREG.2/Circ.50 dated 29 November 2001.

2 The Government of Australia has now informed the Organization of its intention to cancel the temporary adjustment of the traffic separation scheme "In the Bass Strait" with effect from 3 October 2003.

3 Australia will also issue notices to mariners (Australian Hydrographic Offices Notices to Mariners 674T of 2003) advising of the above cancellation and advising vessels to revert to the use of the traffic separation scheme as charted on chart AUS 357A.

4 Member Governments are invited to bring this information to the attention of all concerned.