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## TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEMES

## Temporary adjustment to the FA platform traffic separation Scheme off the south eastern coast of South Africa

## Note by the Government of South Africa

- The South African Maritime Safety Authority has been informed that a drill rig will be positioned within the Eastbound (Southern) lane of the FA Platform Traffic Separation Scheme, commencing 1 October 1999.
- 2 In order to safeguard international shipping, as well as the drill rig itself, the following information is provided in order to inform all concerned organizations worldwide and any shipping using this traffic separation scheme:
  - .1 South Africa will promulgate a "Notice to Mariners" declaring a temporary precautionary area (safety zone) at the entrance of the Eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS). This will allow placement of the drill rig at the Latitude 35°04'.70 South, Longitude 22°00'.24 East;
  - .2 the temporary precautionary area (safety zone) is established as a circle of radius of 1700 meters centred on the drill rig. (Position as in paragraph 2.1 above). This temporary precautionary area (safety zone) will be in force while the drill rig is on location;
  - .3 the rig will be held in position by means of eight anchors positioned in a circle about the rig at a distance of 1200 meters from the rig. Each anchor will be marked with an unlit buoy. The exclusion area will reduce the width of the lane at its entrance to 1.5 nautical miles. Masters of ships transiting the eastbound lane of the TSS are advised to keep well to the South of the drill rig as there are no known hazards to navigation to the South of the traffic lane;
  - .4 the position of the drill rig is based on the WGS 84 spheroid. Charts affected are SAN 122 and SAN 81 (INT 7520). The chart SAN 57 does not have the traffic separation schemes printed thereon;
  - .5 the drill rig will be on station for a period of four months and should conclude its work in this position by 30 January 2000; and
  - a standby vessel will be on station in the immediate vicinity of the rig and will keep a listening watch on VHF channel 16.
- 3 A chartlet from chart SAN 122, prepared by the Hydrographer of the South African Navy, detailing the entrance to the Eastbound lane with the temporary precautionary area (safety zone) inserted is attached at annex.

- There are no hazards to surface navigation to the immediate South of the drill position and the traffic density is light. South Africa considers that the declaration of the temporary precautionary area (safety zone) about the rig in the form of a circle with radius 1700 metres, to be sufficient.
- 5 Upon completion of the drilling operations, South Africa will promulgate a "Notice to Mariners" for the information of all concerned.

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