

INTERNATIONAL MOBILE SATELLITE ORGANIZATION  
4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT  
LONDON SE1 7SR  
UNITED KINGDOM

Telephone + 44 (0) 203 970 1060  
Email [info@imso.org](mailto:info@imso.org)



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## **NOTIFICATION ON INMARSAT FLEET 77 SERVICE TERMINATION**

Inmarsat Fleet 77 service (F77), a Global Maritime Distress and Safety Signal (GMDSS) compliant service that has been providing two-way mobile satellite communications to seafarers, is scheduled to be terminated on 1 December 2020.

The five-year advanced notice on the F77 termination was provided in 2015 to the 3rd session of the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communication, Search and Rescue (NCSR) by the document NCSR 3/19/1, and the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) made subsequent notices to IMO NCSR Sub-Committees by documents NCSR 4/18, NCSR 5/14, NCSR 6/14 and NCSR 7/14/2. Additionally, Inmarsat has been issuing information on the F77 termination by their own broadcasts periodically to ensure that all concerned are aware of the fact and have sufficient time to prepare replacements.

IMSO notes that the number of active F77 terminals has been reduced over the years since the initial notification, however, Inmarsat informed IMISO that F77 distress traffic is still recorded quite frequently. All concerned should note that there are other mobile satellite communication services recognized for use in the GMDSS which provide two-way communication to migrate the existing equipment before the F77 termination if they decide to do so.

All SOLAS Contracting Governments are invited to noted that the F77 is scheduled to be closed on 1 December 2020 and encouraged to issue a notice to all concerned about the closure of the F77.

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