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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order applies, in relation to hovercraft, sections 55 to 58 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1970, and the Merchant Shipping (Formal Investigation) Rules 1985, making new provision for the purpose of enabling inquiries and investigations under those provisions to be made into casualties involving hovercraft (articles 1 and 2).

Article 3 of the Order applies, in relation to hovercraft, specified provisions relating to the prevention of oil pollution from ships (in which respect it gives effect, in part, to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973 (Cmnd. 5748), including Annex 1 to the Convention as amended by the Protocol to that Convention (Cmnd. 7347)). Article 3 also applies the Regulations dealing with control of pollution by garbage from ships, thus giving effect, in part, to Annex V of the said Convention.

The Order also applies section 21 and 22 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1979 (power to make safety regulations), so that regulations made under section 21 relating to ships may also be made relating to hovercraft (article 4).

In each case the provisions in question are applied subject to appropriate modifications as specified, respectively, in each article and the related Schedules to the Order.