5. Stability criteria for small fishing vessels

Fishing vessels should be so designed, constructed and operated that the minimum stability criteria established by the competent authority will be met in all operating conditions. The following minimum stability criteria are recommended for decked fishing vessel.2

A The area under the righting lever curve (GZ curve) should not be less than 0.055 m-rad up to 30° angle of heel.

B The area under the righting lever curve (GZ curve) should and not less than 0.090 m-rad up to X° angle of heel.

C The area under the righting lever curve (GZ curve) between the angles of heel of 30° and X° should not be less than 0.030 m-rad.

X 40° or the angle of flooding θf if this angle is less than 40°. θf is the angle of heel at which openings in the hull, superstructures or deckhouses which cannot rapidly be closed watertight commence to immerse.

D The initial metacentric height GM should not be less than 350 mm for single deck vessels. In vessels with complete superstructure the metacentric height may be reduced to the satisfaction of the competent authority but in no case should be less than 150 mm.

E The maximum righting lever GZmax should occur at an angle of heel preferably exceeding 30° but not less than 25°.

F The righting lever GZ should be at least 200 mm at an angle of heel equal to or greater than 30°. The righting lever GZ may be reduced to the satisfaction of the competent authority but in no case by more than 2(24-L)% where L is the length of the vessel as defined in the FAO/ILO/IMO Voluntary Guidelines for the Design, Construction and Equipment of Small Fishing Vessels (2005).

2 Based on the FAO/ILO/IMO Voluntary Guidelines for the Design, Construction and Equipment of Small Fishing Vessels, 2005