



Technical Information

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To : All BKI Customers

Subject : Summary Report on IMO Meeting of Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 75)

Summary

This Technical Information summarizes the result of 75th Session of the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 75) that was held from the 16 to 20 November 2020, at the IMO headquarters in London.

Information

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The following agenda are among those discussed during the meeting:

Agenda Number	Topic
3	Consideration and adoption of amendments to mandatory instruments
4	Harmful aquatic organisms in ballast water
5	Air Pollution Prevention
6	Energy Efficiency of Ships
7	Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships
10	Pollution Prevention and Response
11	Reports of Other Sub-Committees
16	Any Other Business

The Agenda above are several technical issues discussed during the meeting. A brief coverage among the issues are expressed in the attached document.

More info

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**BRIEF INFORMATION ON IMO MEETING OF MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE
75TH SESSION (MEPC 75)**

**A. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO MANDATORY INSTRUMENTS
(AGENDA ITEM 3)**

Taking into account the approval made at MEPC 74, the Committee agreed to adopt the following draft amendments to mandatory instruments during the virtual meeting:

1. MARPOL Annex VI, concerning procedures for sampling and verification of the sulphur content and the Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI);
2. The Ballast Water Management Convention (BWM Convention), concerning commissioning testing of ballast water management systems and the form of the International Ballast Water Management Certificate.

1. MARPOL Annex VI

The amendments to MARPOL Annex VI cover, among others:

- a. Taking into account the postponement of MEPC 75, the Committee agreed that the adopted amendments to MARPOL Annex VI shall be deemed to have been accepted on 1 October 2021 and shall enter into force on 1 April 2022;
- b. The Committee also agreed to add a paragraph in the draft requisite MEPC resolution, as follows:
"INVITES ALSO the Parties to consider the application of the annexed amendments from 1 January 2022."
- c. During the virtual Drafting Group on Amendments to Mandatory Instruments, the Committee agree to adopt the draft amendments to MARPOL Annex VI, concerning procedures for sampling and verification of the Sulphur content and the EEDI.

2. BWM Convention

- a. The Committee agreed that the adopted amendments regarding commissioning testing of ballast water management systems and the form of the International Ballast Water Management Certificate shall be deemed to have been accepted on 1 December 2021 and shall enter into force on 1 June 2022;
- b. During the virtual Drafting Group on Amendments to Mandatory Instruments, the Committee agree to adopt the draft amendments to the BWM Convention, concerning regulation E-1 and Appendix I.

B. HARMFUL AQUATIC ORGANISMS IN BALLAST WATER (AGENDA ITEM 4)

Approval of ballast water management systems

The Final Approval of the following Ballast Water Management Systems (BWMS) is granted an extension for use in freshwater:

- EcoGuardian™
- HiBallast™
- Electro-Clean™
- BALPURE®
- NK-O3 BlueBallast II Plus

The Final Approval of Ballast Water Management Systems (BWMS) is granted to:

- CleanBallast® - Ocean Barrier System
- SeaCURE® BWMS

Matters deferred to MEPC 76

The Committee agreed to defer the consideration of several documents relating to the application of the BWM Convention to specific ship types to MEPC 76.

C. AIR POLLUTION PREVENTION (AGENDA ITEM 5)

IMO monitoring programme of the worldwide average sulphur content of fuel oils supplied

The Committee adopted resolution MEPC on 2020 Guidelines for monitoring the worldwide average sulphur content of fuel oils supplied for use on board ships. In addition, the Committee noted that distillate fuel and residual fuel would continue to be reported and displayed separately under the 2020 Guidelines.

MARPOL Annex VI NOX Tier III requirements for large yachts

During the virtual meeting, the documents which was submitted by ICIOMA and United States providing an update on the implementation of the Tier III NOX emissions regulations for large yachts greater than 24 m load-line length and less than 500 gross tonnage as set out in regulation 13 of MARPOL Annex V.

In addition, the committee notes the information of the difficulties faced by the yachting sector in complying with the Tier III NOX emissions standards by the agreed deadline of January 2021.

Establishment of a Correspondence Group on Air Pollution and Energy Efficiency

Committee established the Correspondence Group on Air Pollution and Energy Efficiency which to be coordinated by Japan with the following terms of reference:

- a. Review the indicative example of a license for fuel oil supply
- b. Review the draft revised MEPC circular MEPC.1/Circ.883 (PPR 7/22/Add.1, annex 10)
- c. Consider draft amendments to appendix IX on Information to be submitted to the IMO Ship Fuel Oil Consumption Database of MARPOL Annex VI
- d. Further consider the proposal for shaft power limitation
- e. Finalizing the revision of the interim minimum power guidelines contained in MEPC.1/Circ.850/Rev.2
- f. Finalize the draft amendments to the 2018 Guidelines on the method of calculation of the attained Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI) for new ships
- g. Prepare a final draft of the unified interpretation, using document MEPC 75/6/7 as a basis, to clarify the dates related to EEDI phase 2 and 3 for "new ships" to be issued as a new MEPC circular

MARPOL Annex VI NOX Tier III requirements for large yachts

Regarding to the MARPOL Annex VI NOX Tier III requirements for large yachts, Committee noted the concerns on large yachts not being able to comply with Tier III NOX limits by 1 January 2021 and agreed that should any Member States wish to pursue the matter further, they should submit further documents to a future session.

Matters deferred to MEPC 76

The Committee agreed to defer the consideration of several documents such as: Preliminary overview of data on fuel oil quality and availability currently in the MARPOL Annex VI module in GISIS, urgent action to stop the use of blended very low sulphur fuels, and many others to MEPC 76.

D. ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF SHIPS (AGENDA ITEM 6)

EEDI reviews required under regulation 21.6 of MARPOL Annex VI

The Committee noted the information submitted to the EEDI database had been received from 10 recognized organizations for 6,431 ships in total (as on 3 September 2020), and that the aggregated and anonymized data had been posted in the MARPOL Annex VI module of GISIS.

Interim report of the Correspondence Group on Possible Introduction of EEDI Phase 4

The Committee noted the progress of the Correspondence Group on Possible Introduction of EEDI Phase 4 and the need to streamline the work with respect to the ongoing work in the ISWG-GHG.

Matters deferred to MEPC 76

The Committee agreed to defer the consideration of several documents such as; Methodology for calculating the effect of an overridable Engine Power Limitation, Finalization of the revised 2013 Interim Guidelines for determining minimum propulsion power to maintain the manoeuvrability of ships in adverse conditions, and many others to MEPC 76.

E. REDUCTION OF GHG EMISSIONS FROM SHIPS (Agenda item 7)

Outcome of the UN Climate Action Summit 2019 and relevant UNFCCC meetings

The Committee requested the Secretariat to continue its well-established cooperation with the UNFCCC Secretariat and its attendance at relevant UNFCCC meetings and to continue, as appropriate, to bring the outcome of IMO's work to the attention of appropriate UNFCCC bodies and meetings.

Information on the establishment and operation of the GHG TC-Trust Fund

The Committee encouraged Member Governments and international organizations to consider making a financial contribution to the GHG TC-Trust Fund. In addition, Committee noted that the information provided in document submitted by Indonesia and invited interested Member States and international organizations to provide their further comments and experience on concepts relating to "blending financing".

Draft MEPC resolution on encouragement of Member States to develop and submit voluntary National Action Plans to address GHG emissions from ships

The Committee adopted resolution MEPC on Encouragement of Member States to develop and submit voluntary National Action Plans to address GHG emissions from ships.

Further consideration of draft amendments to MARPOL Annex VI to reduce the carbon intensity of existing ships

During the virtual meeting, the issue was raised regarding the further consideration of draft amendments to MARPOL Annex VI to reduce the carbon intensity of existing ship, many delegations expressed their support to the approval of the short-term GHG reduction measure as set out in the draft amendments to MARPOL Annex VI combining EEXI, SEEMP and CII rating, stating that this new measure provided a good balance that would enable international shipping to achieve at least 40% carbon intensity reduction by 2030 compared with 2008 in line with the Initial IMO GHG Strategy while allowing for the gathering of additional information, gaining more experience on the functioning of the measure and avoiding undue penalization of ships which are not able to reduce their carbon intensity due to reasons out of their control.

Fourth IMO GHG Study 2020

In the discussion, all delegations that spoke expressed their appreciation to the consortium, to the Steering Committee that oversaw the development of the Study and the coordination of the work, and recommended the approval of the Study at this session.

The Committee approved the Fourth IMO GHG Study 2020 and requested the Secretariat to publish and disseminate the Study including any editorial corrections that may be identified.

Establishment of a correspondence group

The Committee established a Correspondence Group on the Development of Technical Guidelines on Carbon Intensity Reduction, under the joint coordination of China, Japan and the European Commission, with the following terms of reference:

- a. further consider and develop the draft technical guidelines supporting the EEXI framework
- b. consider and develop technical guidelines supporting the CII framework for voluntary application first until 1 January 2026
- c. consider and update the 2016 Guidelines for the development of a Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan (SEEMP) (resolution MEPC.282(70)), including to incorporate the development of a plan of corrective actions and verification requirements of SEEMP
- d. consider the need to update existing guidelines, procedures or guidance, including :
 - 2017 Guidelines for administration verification of ship fuel oil consumption data (resolution MEPC.292(71)), as appropriate
 - 2017 Guidelines for the development and management of the IMO Ship Fuel Oil Consumption Database (resolution MEPC.293(71))
 - procedure on Submission of data to the IMO data collection system of fuel oil consumption of ships from a State not Party to MARPOL Annex VI (MEPC.1/Circ.871)
 - Procedures for port State control, 2019 (resolution A.1138(31))
 - 2013 Guidance on treatment of innovative energy efficiency technologies for calculation and verification of the attained EEDI (MEPC/1/Circ.815)

Consideration of the proposal for an International Maritime Research and Development Board (IMRB)

The Committee had for its consideration a proposal co-sponsored by several industry associations for the development of a research and development (R&D) programme to accelerate the introduction of low-carbon and zero-carbon technologies and fuels. Some views were raised in the discussion such as: the consideration for the existing technological research on new energy that had already conducted by some countries, the partnership programme, cost implication regarding the mandatory financial contribution, the administrative burden on flag States, and the acceleration of IMO Strategy.

Matters deferred to MEPC 76

The Committee agreed to defer the consideration of several documents such as; National Action Plan to address GHG emissions from ships, inclusion all greenhouse gases emitted from ships (including methane in the EEDI) and many others to MEPC 76.

F. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND RESPONSE (AGENDA ITEM 10)

Safety and pollution hazards of chemicals

The Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare consequential amendments to appendix I of MARPOL Annex II due to finalization of the revision of GESAMP Reports and Studies No.64, which had been published as GESAMP Reports and Studies No.102 (GESAMP Hazard Evaluation Procedure for Chemicals carried by Ships, 2019) and included a reassigned column E1 and a sub-categorization

of column C3 of the GESAMP Hazard Profile table and submit them to MEPC 76, with a view to approval and subsequent circulation for adoption.

Replacement of International Certificates of Fitness for the Carriage of Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk

The Committee together with MSC 102 have approved MSC-MEPC.5/Circ.7/Rev.1 on Guidance on the timing of replacement of existing certificates by revised certificates as a consequence of the entry into force of amendments to chapters 17 and 18 of the IBC Code.

Evaluation of products and cleaning additives

- a. The Committee concurred with the evaluation of cleaning additives by ESPH Working Group at PPR 7 and their inclusion in list 3 and annex 10 of MEPC.2 circular on the Provisional categorization of liquid substances in accordance with MARPOL Annex II and the IBC Code (i.e. MEPC.2/Circ.26, to be issued in December 2020).
- b. The Committee endorsed PPR.1/Circ.9 on Revised carriage requirements for methyl acrylate and methyl methacrylate. In addition, the Committee concurred with the recommendation of the Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response that chapter 17 of the IBC Code should be amended to include the updated carriage requirements for methyl acrylate and methyl methacrylate.
- c. The Committee endorsed PPR.1/Circ.10 on Resubmission of products listed in lists 2 and 3 of the MEPC.2 circular on Provisional categorization of liquid substances in accordance with MARPOL Annex II and the IBC Code.
- d. The Committee endorsed the Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response recommendation that the existing entries for the paraffin-like products listed in paragraph 5 of MEPC.1/Circ.886 could be retained on the ship's Certificate of Fitness, even if the renamed and reassessed products were listed in the addendum to the ship's Certificate, since the product names used in the IBC Code and in list 1 of the MEPC.2 circular were different.

Amendments to the AFS Convention to include controls on cybutryne

The Committee approved the draft amendments to the AFS Convention regarding the requirements for prohibiting the use of anti-fouling systems containing cybutryne from 1 January 2023 and to remove or seal the anti-fouling systems for existing ships on the renewal schedule for anti-fouling systems after 1 January 2023 but not later than 60 months after the last application for adoption at MEPC 76.

Sampling of fuel oil

The Committee approved MEPC.1/Circ.889 on Guidelines for on board sampling of fuel oil intended to be used or carried for use on board a ship.

Commissioning testing of ballast water management systems

The Committee approved BWM.2/Circ.70/Rev.1 on Guidance for the commissioning testing of ballast water management systems.

Ballast water sampling and analysis

The Committee approved BWM.2/Circ.42/Rev.2 on Guidance on ballast water sampling and analysis for trial use in accordance with the BWM Convention and Guidelines (G2).

Matters deferred to MEPC 76

The Committee agreed to defer the following consideration of documents to MEPC 76:

- Draft MEPC resolution on the Guidelines for exhaust gas cleaning systems;
- Draft revised MEPC circular on Guidance on indication of ongoing compliance in the case of the failure of a single monitoring instrument, and recommended actions to take if the exhaust gas cleaning system (EGCS) fails to meet the provisions of the EGCS Guidelines;
- Evaluation and harmonization of rules and guidance on the discharge of discharge water from EGCS into the aquatic environment;
- The possibility of involving GESAMP in the development of different parts of the agreed scope for scientific advice;
- Reducing the impact on the Arctic of Black Carbon emissions from international shipping;
- Draft MEPC circular on the Guidelines for systems for handling oily wastes in machinery spaces of ships incorporating guidance notes for an integrated bilge water treatment system (IBTS);
- Draft MEPC circular on Provision of adequate facilities at ports and terminals for the reception of plastic waste from ships;
- Draft MEPC circular on Sharing of results from research on marine litter and encouraging studies to better understand micro plastics from ships;
- Draft amendments to the Procedures for PSC on the use of electronic record books;
- Draft MEPC circular on Unified interpretations to the NOX Technical Code 2008;
- Consequential amendments to the 2013 Guidelines as required by 13.2.2 of MARPOL Annex VI in respect of non-identical replacement engines not required to meet the Tier III limit;
- Amendments to the 2019 Guidelines for port State control under MARPOL Annex VI Chapter 3.

G. REPORTS OF OTHER SUB-COMMITTEES (AGENDA ITEM 11)

Outcome of HTW 6

The Committee concurred with the decision of MSC 102 to request the III Sub-Committee to consider how e-learning training material could assist with the implementation of instruments other than the STCW Convention and advise the Committee accordingly. Furthermore, the Committee concurred with the decision of MSC 102 to endorse the systematic use of the Model Course Trust Fund to hire experts

for the development and revision of model courses, subject to the Secretariat's contracting process, to be applied to all IMO bodies dealing with model courses, as necessary.

Outcome of III 5 & III 6

The Committee concurred with the decision by MSC 102 to instruct III 7 to further consider the text only of paragraph 6.5.5 of the draft MSC-MEPC.5 circular on Model agreement for the authorization of recognized organizations acting on behalf of the Administration.

Outcome of MSC 101 and A 31

- a. The Committee concurred with the decisions made and action taken by MSC 101 with regard to the outcome of the analysis of the first Consolidated Audit Summary Report (CASR) under the IMO Member State Audit Scheme.
- b. The Committee concurred with the decision of MSC 101 that references to resolutions A.739(18) on Guidelines for the authorization of organizations acting on behalf of the Administrations and A.789(19) on Specifications on the survey and certification functions of recognized organizations acting on behalf of the administration should be revoked at a future session by the Assembly.
- c. The Committee agreed to postpone consideration of the proposals on the process of updating the Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC) to MEPC 76.

Outcome of CCC 6

The Committee noted that MSC 102 had approved changing the target completion year of the existing output on "Amendments to the IGF Code and development of guidelines for low-flashpoint fuels" to "continuous", taking into account the work plan for the next phase of the development of the IGF Code.

Exemption of UNSP barges from survey and certification requirements

- a. The Committee approved the draft amendments to MARPOL Annexes I, IV and VI concerning the exemption of unmanned non-self-propelled (UNSP) barges from survey and certification requirements with a view to adoption at MEPC 76.
- b. The Committee approved the draft MEPC.1 circular on Guidelines for exemption of unmanned non-self-propelled (UNSP) barges from the survey and certification requirements under the MARPOL Convention with a view to approving the circular at MEPC 76.

Matters deferred to MEPC 76

The Committee agreed to defer the following consideration of documents to MEPC 76:

- The justification for, and decide on the inclusion of, a new output on "Producing a new entrant training manual for PSC personnel";
- Development of guidance in relation to IMSAS to assist in the implementation of the III Code.

H. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (AGENDA ITEM 16)

Status of the Hong Kong Convention

The Committee noted the information of the status of the Hong Kong Convention, outlining the calculation of recycling capacity for meeting the entry-into-force conditions of the Hong Kong Convention; and invited Member States to ratify the Hong Kong Convention if they had not already done so.

Update on information sharing on bio fouling

The Committee noted an update on information sharing on biofouling, including a summary of a meeting of interested parties held in the margins of MEPC 73, chaired by Australia and New Zealand.

Enhancements to GISIS

The Committee noted the information of recent enhancements to GISIS modules relevant to IMO's environmental conventions.