



Briefings of IMO Meeting

PPR 8 (22 - 26 March 2021)

BRIEFING STATUS

Flash

No. IMO-0003-2021

(For sub-committee only 1 step as Flash)

Subject: News Flash of PPR 8 (Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response)

The Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR) was held its 8th session from 22nd to 26th March 2021 via remote session. In this regard, please be informed of the main issues and summary of PPR 8 as below. In reviewing this briefing, readers should be assured that the outputs written herein are not legally effective until they are adopted as mandatory instruments by MEPC.

1. Safety and pollution hazards of chemicals and preparation of consequential amendments to the IBC Code (Agenda item 3)

- The Sub-Committee agreed to request the Secretariat to convey the invitation to the GESAMP/EHS Working Group to start the consideration of Germany's proposals at GESAMP/EHS 58.
- The Sub-Committee approved United Kingdom's proposals to add a generic entry for "Palm oil mill effluent (POME) technical oil" in list 1 of the MEPC.2/Circular with validity for all countries and with no expiry date.

2. Review of the 2011 Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling to minimize the transfer of invasive aquatic species (resolution MEPC.207(62)) (Agenda item 4)

- The Sub-Committee agreed to re-establish the Correspondence Group to further review and develop a revision of the Biofouling Guidelines and requested MEPC 76 to extend the target completion year of output to 2023.

3. Reduction of the impact on the Arctic of emissions of Black Carbon from international shipping (Agenda item 5)

- Taking into account that MEPC 74 had noted that action considered in respect of reducing the impact on the Arctic of Black Carbon emissions from



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international shipping could include non-mandatory instruments such as guidance. Draft revised Terms of Reference are followings;

- develop, as a starting point, guidelines on recommendatory goal-based control measures to reduce the impact on the Arctic of Black Carbon emissions from international shipping, taking into account the identified candidate control measures;
 - further consider the recommended Black Carbon measurement methods (FSN*, PAS**, LII***) to be used in conjunction with regulations to control Black Carbon emissions from marine diesel engines;
 - develop a standardized sampling, conditioning and measurement protocol, including a traceable reference method and an uncertainty analysis, taking into account the three most appropriate Black Carbon measurement methods (FSN*, PAS**, LII***), to make accurate and traceable (comparable) measurements of Black Carbon emissions. This measurement system should not preclude consideration and agreement on policy options to avoid or otherwise limit Black Carbon emissions from ships, as its development would in fact benefit from guidance on how possible regulations would be applied;
- * *Filter Smoke Meter (FSN)*
** *Photo-Acoustic Spectrometry (PAS)*
*** *Laser Induced Incandescence (LII)*
- submit a report to MEPC 79 in 2022.
 - o Considering the above draft ToR, the Sub-Committee has request MEPC 76 to extend the target completion year for the output to 2023.

4. Development of measures to reduce risks of use and carriage of heavy fuel oil as fuel by ships in Arctic waters (Agenda item 6)

- o The majority of the Sub-Committee supports the option 2 which is Guidelines distinct two parts, one with responsibilities of Maritime Administrations and another with that of ship operators.



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- The Sub-Committee has requested MEPC 76 to target completion year for the output to 2022 and agreed to discuss for consideration at PPR 9.
- 5. Revision of MARPOL Annex IV and associated guidelines to introduce provisions for record-keeping and measures to confirm the lifetime performance of sewage treatment plants (Agenda item 7)
 - With regard to the proposals to prohibit the discharge of sewage in areas that were sensitive and/or significant for ecological, cultural or scientific reasons, PPR 8 agreed that they were outside the scope of the current output and concluded that should Member States and international organizations want to address this matter they could submit proposals to MEPC to either expand the scope of the current output or propose a new output.
 - The Sub-Committee agreed to re-establish the Correspondence Group amendments to MARPOL Annex IV and associated guidelines with following terms of reference;
 - further develop the draft amendments to MARPOL Annex IV;
 - develop draft amendments to the *2012 Guidelines on implementation of effluent standards and performance tests for sewage treatment plants* with focus on;
 - review the scope of application of the draft amendments to MARPOL Annex IV to new and existing ships, including draft appendix II, taking into account the general principle that ships should not be unduly penalized and, in parallel, address the matters;
 - identify the relevance for amending the *Recommendation on standards for the rate of discharge of untreated sewage from ships* (resolution MEPC 157(55)) for discharge rate of sewage sludge;
 - review the need to provide adequate port reception facilities;



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- submit a written report to PPR 9.
- o PPR 8 has requested MEPC 76 to extend the target completion year of output to 2023.

6. Follow-up work emanating from the Action Plan to Address Marine Plastic Litter from Ships (Agenda item 8)

- o The Sub-Committee agreed to establish the working group to discuss for developing the draft amendments to MARPOL Annex V to provide for the reporting mechanisms, the modalities and the information to be reported to Administrations and IMO to facilitate and enhance reporting of the accidental loss or discharge of fishing gear and draft amendments to the 2017 Guidelines for the implementation of MARPOL Annex V (Resolution MEPC.295(71)) at PPR 9.

7. Any other business (Agenda item 11)

[Development of a Protocol for Verification of Ballast Water Compliance Monitoring Devices]

- o Noting the importance of this protocol in a number of contexts including the experience-building phase, port State control and commissioning testing, a number of technical topics arising from the submitted documents were highlighted by various delegations that require further consideration and/or on which there may be divergent views, including the following:
 - whether to distinguish between viable and non-viable organisms;
 - the range of ballast water management technologies that should be covered;
 - the need for field tests, with some delegations of the view that this would be necessary in order to capture real-life circumstances and other delegations of the view that some tests may not be feasible on board ships;
 - the organism categories under regulation D-2 to be included in the tests, notably with regard to the indicator microbes;



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- the need for clear criteria for accuracy and reliability;
- concerns regarding the capabilities of such devices under diverse water qualities;
- the effect on the accuracy of such devices of environmental factors including the presence of dead algae, humic acid and turbidity.
- o The Sub-Committee encouraged interested Member States and international organizations to contact the Coordinator of the Correspondence Group, with a view to participating and contributing to the work of that Group, including the provision of further information on technical matters.

P.I.C:

Jungsik KIM / Senior surveyor
Convention & Legislation Service Team
Tel: +82 70 8799 8332
Fax: +82 70 8799 8319
E-mail: convention@krs.co.kr

**General Manager of
Convention & Legislation Service Team**

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