



IMO News Brief

PPR 10



The 10th session of Pollution Prevention and Response Sub-Committee (hereinafter referred to as “PPR”) was convened as a hybrid meeting from 24th to 28th April 2023, and this news flash briefs on the outcomes of PPR 10 on major technical issues. In reviewing this flash, readers should be assured that the outputs contained 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)

1.1 Revision of MEPC.1/Circ.590 on revised tank cleaning additives guidance note and reporting form

After the discussion on the text and reporting form to facilitate understanding of the evaluation criteria and procedures for cargo tank cleaning additives, the remaining items, including the clarification of the cleaning additives for evaluation and the relevant text, will be further reviewed at the next ESPH 29 ('23.10).

1.2 Ventilation requirement in the IBC Code regarding the lack of toxic vapour detection equipment

Regarding the proposed amendment to the IBC Code on ventilation requirement pertaining to the lack of toxic vapour detection equipment, issues on the crew safety as well as technical test results will be further considered at the next ESPH 29 ('23.10).

1.3 Classification of liquid substances transported in bulk

The carriage requirement of 'Fast pyrolysis bio-oil' will be included in list 1 of the MEPC.2/Circular ('23.12)

The carriage requirement of 'OLOA 54013' will be included in list 3 of the MEPC.2/Circular ('23.12)

The carriage requirement of 'OLOA 9999' will be included in list 3 of the MEPC.2/Circular ('23.12)

2. DEVELOPMENT OF AN OPERATIONAL GUIDE ON THE RESPONSE TO SPILLS OF HAZARDOUS AND NOXIOUS SUBSTANCES (HNS) (Agenda item 4)

On the basis of the 'Marine HNS Response Manual' developed by REMPEC, the Bonn Agreement and HELCOM, the draft 'Operational Guide on the Response to Spills of Hazardous of Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS)' was finalized with modifications* , with a view to approval by MEPC 80.

* ① All regional-specific references were removed ② Guide was divided into two volumes (preparedness and response)

3. REVIEW OF THE 2011 GUIDELINES FOR THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF SHIPS' BIOFOULING TO MINIMIZE THE TRANSFER OF INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES (Agenda item 5)

3.1 On the basis of the report of the correspondence group, the draft 2023 guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling to minimize the transfer of invasive aquatic species was finalized, with a view to adoption by MEPC 80.

<Major discussion changes>

- Inspections: assessment of biofouling across the entirety of a ship's hull and niche areas
- Fouling rates: deletion of 'fouling rate 2' as distinction between light and heavy microfouling could be difficult and confusing
- Inspection frequencies: the first inspection date should be within 12 months after application, re-application, installation or renewal of anti-fouling system, then at least every 12 to 18 months
- Capture rate: deletion of capture rate for in-water cleaning (it will be addressed in a separate guidance)

3.2 With regard to the proposed 'development of guidelines on verification of in-water cleaning', the Sub-Committee requested to extend the target completion year to 2025 and change the title* of current output to MEPC 80.

* (From) Review of the biofouling guidelines → (To) Development of guidance on matters relating to in-water cleaning

4. REDUCTION OF THE IMPACT ON THE ARCTIC OF BLACK CARBON EMISSIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING (Agenda item 6)

4.1 Further development of draft guidelines on goal-based control measures to reduce the impact on the Arctic of Black Carbon emissions from international shipping

Proposed changes to definitions of the geographical scope for the Arctic region was not supported, then it was agreed to change the reference to 'operating in or near the Arctic'. Following the need of further discussion including the black carbon measurement methods, the Correspondence Group will be re-established, and the outline of the inter-sessional work (the purpose of the guidelines, scopes, application to existing ships, measurement/monitoring and data collection) was prepared.

4.2 List of potential Black Carbon control measures

Although there were some expressions on urgent need of a mandatory switch to distillate fuels or other cleaner alternative fuels, it was noted that the proposal for new output should be made to the Committee. Regarding the 'list of potential Black Carbon control measures', the Sub-Committee invited interested Member States and international organizations to work intersessionally and submit the proposal to PPR 11 and agreed to extend to target completion year to 2025.

5. STANDARDS FOR SHIPBOARD GASIFICATION OF WASTE SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION 16 OF MARPOL ANNEX VI (Agenda item 7)

After in-depth discussion in the working group, the Sub-Committee finalized the draft 2023 Guidelines for thermal waste treatment devices, with a view to adoption by MEPC 80.

6. AMENDMENTS TO MARPOL ANNEX VI AND THE NO_x TECHNICAL CODE ON THE USE OF MULTIPLE ENGINE OPERATIONAL PROFILES FOR A MARINE DIESEL ENGINE (Agenda item 8)

The Sub-Committee invited interested Member States and international organizations to submit a proposal containing draft amendments to the NO_x Technical Code regarding MEOPs* and EIAPP test cycles to PPR 11, and requested the Committee to expand the scope of the output to cover definitions of terminology and application related to EIAPP test cycles and to change the title* of the output.

- * MEOPs: Multiple Engine Operational Profiles
- * Development of amendments to MARPOL Annex VI and the NOx Technical Code on the use of multiple engine operational profiles for a marine diesel engine and on the clarification of test cycles

7. REVISION OF REGULATION 13.2.2 OF MARPOL ANNEX VI TO CLARIFY THAT A MARINE DIESEL ENGINE REPLACING A BOILER SHALL BE CONSIDERED A REPLACEMENT ENGINE (Agenda item 9)

For the consideration of a marine diesel engine installed replacing a steam system as a replacement engine, for which the Tier III is not mandatory, the draft amendments to regulation 13.2.2 of MARPOL Annex VI and associated Guidelines were finalized.

- ① Draft amendment to regulation 13.2.2 of MARPOL Annex VI was finalized so that the installation of a marine diesel engine replacing a steam system can be considered as a replacement engine, with a view to approval by MEPC 80
- ② Draft 2023 guidelines in respect of non-identical replacement engines not required to meet the Tier III limit was finalized, with a view to adoption by MEPC 80
- ③ Consequential amendments to the unified interpretation (MEPC.1/Circ.795/rev.7) was finalized, with a view to approval by MEPC

8. DEVELOPMENT OF MEASURES TO REDUCE RISKS OF USE AND CARRIAGE OF HEAVY FUEL OIL AS FUEL BY SHIPS IN ARCTIC WATERS (Agenda item 10)

Consideration on the draft ‘guidelines on mitigation measures to reduce risks of use and carriage for use of heavy fuel oil as fuel by ships in Arctic waters’ was deferred to PPR 11 since no groups could be established at the session, and it was agreed to extend the target completion year to 2024.

Regarding the proposal to amend the special requirements for the use and carriage of oil as fuel in Arctic waters, i.e., upper pour point limit, it was noted that a proposal for new output should be submitted to the Committee.

9. REVIEW OF IBTS GUIDELINES AND AMENDMENTS TO THE IOPP CERTIFICATE AND OIL RECORD BOOK (Agenda item 11)

Consideration on the forced evaporation of oily bilge water as appropriate means of disposal and amendment to IBTS* guidelines was deferred to PPR 11 due to the absence of proposals to this session, and it was agreed to extend the target completion year to 2025.

* IBTS: Integrated bilge water treatment system

10. REVISION OF MARPOL ANNEX IV AND ASSOCIATED GUIDELINES (Agenda item 12)

Following the discussion on the requirement of performance test and discharge criteria, the Correspondence group was re-established for further consideration on items including application of performance test and indicative monitoring to existing ships, and it was agreed to extend the target completion year to 2025.

11. FOLLOW-UP WORK EMANATING FROM THE ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS MARINE PLASTIC LITTER FROM SHIPS (Agenda item 13)

11.1 Reduction of the environmental risk associated with the maritime transport of plastic pellets

Draft MEPC circular on recommendations for the carriage of plastic pellets by sea in freight containers was developed, with a view to further discussion at CCC Sub-Committee.

Consideration on the classification of pellets as a new class of harmful substances to IMDG Code was not included in the draft circular due to lack of technical grounds.

11.2 Reporting of fishing gear that has been lost or discharged from a ship, and marking of fishing gear

Discussion on reporting of fishing gear has been lost or discharged from a ship was extended to the re-established Correspondence Group (mandatory and non-mandatory reporting items).

Considering the different national circumstances and the wide variety of fisheries and fishing gear, marking of fishing gear will be further discussed at the next session.

12. UNIFIED INTERPRETATION ON PROVISIONS OF IMO ENVIRONMENT-RELATED CONVENTIONS (Agenda item 14)

Following draft unified interpretations were finalized, with a view to approval by MEPC 80.

- Unified interpretation to regulations 18.5 and 18.6 of MARPOL Annex VI that the **bunker delivery note (BDN) is acceptable in either hard copy or electronic format**, and verification methods such as a tracking number and QR code were added, for inclusion in a revision of MEPC.1/Circ.795/rev.7.
- Unified interpretation to the form of the IBWM certificate and regulation B-3.5 and B-3.10 of the BWM Convention that **'date of major conversion' is to be provided on the certificate as 'date of construction'** in case of a major conversion of existing ships, for inclusion in a revision of BWM.2/Circ.66/rev.5.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda item 17)

13.1 Development of a protocol for verification of ballast water compliance monitoring devices

Draft protocol for verification of ballast water compliance monitoring devices was finalized for inclusion in draft BWM.2 circular, with a view to approval by MEPC 80.

13.2 Revision of the 2025 Guidelines for the development of the Inventory of Hazardous Materials

Draft text of 2023 guidelines for the development of the Inventory of Hazardous Materials was finalized with the addition of threshold for cybutryne corresponding to sampling of dry paint directly from the hull which relates to ship recycling, with a view to adoption by MEPC 80.

13.3 Draft amendments to the 2019 Guidelines for on board sampling for the verification of the sulphur content of the fuel oil used on board ships

Following the discussion on the difficulty faced to access to take in-use fuel oil sample between the fuel oil tank and the emergency generator fulfilling the conditions as described in document PPR 10/17/2 (IACS), there were

supports on the views that it is unlikely inaccessible and that the current guideline does not preclude case-by-case alternatives. Thus, it was agreed to keep the guideline unchanged.

Following the discussion on the document MEPC 78/5/1 (China), there were supports on the views that there were no demonstrable issues for onboard sampling in low-temperature environments and that specifications on the sample size should be determined by the inspection in consultation with analyzing laboratories. Thus, it was agreed to keep the guideline unchanged.

13.4 Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) emissions

In the light of the reduction of volatile organic compound emissions, there were supports on the importance of involving terminals in the envisaged work. **Draft scope of work on the reduction of volatile organic compound emissions was finalized** and forwarded to MEPC 80 for concurrence.

Should you have inquiries, please contact P.I.C in the details below.
Thank you.

General Manager Convention & Legislation Service Team

P.I.C: KWON Wooseok / Senior Surveyor
Tel: +82 70 8799 8332
Fax: +82 70 8799 8339
E-mail: convention@krs.co.kr

Disclaimer

Although all possible efforts have been made to ensure correctness and completeness of the contents contained in this information service, the Korean Register is not responsible for any errors or omissions made herein, nor held liable for any actions taken by any party as a result of information retrieved from this information service