



# Briefings of IMO Meeting

## PPR 9 (4 - 8 April 2022)

BRIEFING STA

*Flash*

No. IMO-0005-2022

(For sub-committee only 1 step as Flash)

### **Subject: News Flash of PPR 9 (Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response)**

The Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR) held its ninth session remotely from 4 to 8 April 2022. The following groups were established in Sub-Committee

- ▶ Working Group on Marine Biosafety (WG 1)
- ▶ Working Group on Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships (WG 2)
- ▶ Working Group on Sewage Treatment Plants and Marine Plastic Litter from Ships (WG 3)
- ▶ Drafting Group on Regional Arrangements for Port Reception Facilities in the Arctic (DG)

In this regard, please be informed of the main issues and summary of PPR 9 as below. In reviewing this briefing, readers should be assured that the output 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 PPR 9 reviewed the report of 27th Technical Group on ESPH (Evaluation of Safety and Pollution Hazards of Chemicals).
  - Noted the outcome of GESAMP/EHS 58 and in particular, the development of GESAMP Hazard Profiles for 13 new substances, including "Palm oil mill effluent oil", "Palm oil mill effluent oil refined" and "Palm oil mill effluent oil fatty acid distillate".
  - Concurred with the evaluation of pure or technically pure products and mixtures as a whole, including the evaluation of "Palm oil mill effluent oil" as a replacement for the generic entry for "Palm oil mill effluent (POME) technical oil", and their respective inclusion in list 1 of MEPC.2/Circ.27 (published on 1 December 2021), with validity for all countries and with no expiry date.
  - Noted the assessment procedure for mixtures against the criteria for the discharge requirement in regulation 13.7.1.4 of MARPOL Annex II.
  - Concurred with the evaluation of cleaning additives and noted their inclusion in annex 10 to MEPC.2/Circ.27.



# Briefings of IMO Meeting

## PPR 9 (4 - 8 April 2022)

BRIEFING STA

Flash

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## 2. Development of an operational guide on the response to spills of Hazardous and Noxious Substance (HNS) (Agenda item 4)

- The PPR 9 reviewed the marine HNS response manual developed by Regional Maritime Pollution Emergency Response Centre (REMPEC), the Bonn Agreement and Helsinki Commission (HELCOM), proposing that it be used as the basis for the development of an IMO guide on the response to HNS.
  - The manual is composed with three sections as follows:
    - 1) An introductory background providing information on the concepts driving HNS response strategies.
    - 2) Operational fact sheets and decision-making flowcharts.
    - 3) Regional specificities (information on maritime transport, sensitive resources, etc.) for the Baltic Sea, the Greater North Sea and its approaches and the Mediterranean Sea, respectively.
  - Agreed to invite interested delegations to work intersessionally to develop an operational guide on the response to spills of HNS and to submit a draft guide to PPR 10 with a target completion year of 2023.

## 3. Revised guidance on methodologies that may be used for enumerating viable organisms (Agenda item 5)

- In the absence of additional information and proposals on new analysis method to PPR 9, the Sub-Committee agreed to the draft text for the revision of the *Guidance on methodologies that may be used for enumerating viable organisms for type approval of ballast water management systems*, with a view to approval at MEPC 78 and dissemination as BWM.2/Circ.61/Rev.1.

## 4. Revision of guidelines associated with the AFS Convention - introduction of controls on cybutryne (Agenda item 6)



# Briefings of IMO Meeting

## PPR 9 (4 - 8 April 2022)

BRIEFING STA

*Flash*

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- MEPC 76 adopted resolution MEPC.331(76) on amendments to the AFS Convention, concerning controls on cybutryne, which were expected to enter into force on 1 January 2023. Consequentially, relevant guidelines were discussed during PPR 9.
- A working group (WG 1) on Marine Biosafety was established which finalize the revised *Guidelines for brief sampling of anti-fouling systems on ships*, *Guidelines for inspection of anti-fouling systems on ships* and *Guidelines for survey and certification of anti-fouling systems on ships* with a view to their approval at MEPC 78.
- The group recognized that *Guidelines for inspection of anti-fouling systems on ships* would eventually be added as a new appendix to the *Procedures for port State control* in its future version, which would entail the Committee instructing the III Sub-Committee to review the Guidelines.
- The group considered that the need for an update to the list of items in the Inventory of Hazardous Materials under the Hong Kong Convention to include cybutryne, but therefore there was no need to amend as the text was generic enough. However, the group noted that there may be a need to amend the *2015 Guidelines for the development of the Inventory of Hazardous Materials* (resolution MEPC.269(68)), which contained more specific guidance currently limited to organotin compounds.

### 5. 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 7)

- A working group (WG) on Marine Biosafety was reviewed the guidelines prepared by correspondence group established in PPR 7.
- Following the discussions, the group agreed to re-establish the correspondence group on Review of Biofouling Guidelines in line with terms of reference (ToR) to finalize the draft revised guidelines, with a view to approval at PPR 10:
  - Improvement of flow-chart for risk assessment.
  - Conclusion on appropriate inspection intervals based on the risk assessment.



# Briefings of IMO Meeting

## PPR 9 (4 - 8 April 2022)

BRIEFING STA

*Flash*

No. IMO-0005-2022

(For sub-committee only 1 step as Flash)

- Conclusion on the biofouling rating and recommended actions with a view to increased applicability and effectiveness.
- Conclusion on the outcome of reactive cleaning activities and appropriate capture rate for cleaning activities.
- Consideration of all comment documents and information submitted by PPR 9

### 6. Reduction of the impact on the Arctic of Black Carbon (BC) emissions from international shipping (Agenda item 8)

- o The PPR 9 endorsed the terms of reference (ToRs) with regard to resolution MEPC.342(77) *on Protecting the Arctic from shipping Black Carbon emissions*, for the establishment of a correspondence group to further discuss, and agreed to extend the target completion year of the output to 2023.
- The development of guidelines on recommendatory goal-based control measures to reduce the impact on the Arctic of Black Carbon emissions from international shipping.
- Regulating or controlling BC emissions directly from marine diesel engine (exhaust gas).
- The recommended BC measurement methods (FSN, PAS, LII) to be used in conjunction with regulations.
- The development of a standardized sampling, conditioning and measurement protocol, including a traceable reference method and an uncertainty analysis.

### 7. Standards for shipboard gasification of waste systems and associated amendments to regulation 16 of MARPOL Annex VI (Agenda item 9)

- o PPR 9 noted the recommendation that the outcome for the further consideration, in particular, the proposed document does not contain a specification, but only addresses environmental elements and the application of the proposed guidelines to waste treatment devices should be further discussed in the correspondence group.



# Briefings of IMO Meeting

## PPR 9 (4 - 8 April 2022)

BRIEFING STA

*Flash*

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- In this regard, the WG on prevention of air pollution from ships reviewed the proposals and drafted terms of reference (ToRs) through the established correspondence group on prevention of air pollution from ships with a view to developing draft standard specification or guidelines for thermal waste treatment devices (TWTd).

### **8. Evaluation and harmonization of rules and guidance on the discharge of discharge water from exhaust gas cleaning systems (EGCS) into the aquatic environment, including conditions and areas (Agenda item 10)**

- PPR 9 (WG 2) discussed the evaluation and harmonization of rules and guidance on the discharge water from EGCS into the aquatic environment, including conditions and areas, and taking into account all relevant documents submitted to MEPC 75, MEPC 76, MEPC 77 and PPR 9.
- PPR 9 (WG 2) was tasked in two parts:
  - The development of guidelines concerning risk and impact assessments as well as on delivery of EGCS residues.
  - On how best to finalize the remaining work under this output, namely other regulatory matters and the establishment of a database of substances identified in EGCS discharge water.
- PPR 9 agreed to the draft MEPC Circular on *2022 Guidelines for Risk and impact assessments of the discharge water from exhaust gas cleaning systems* and draft MEPC Circular on *Guidance Regarding the delivery of EGCS residues and stored discharge water to port reception facilities*.
- PPR 9 also discussed how to progress the remaining work under this output.
  - With regard to regulatory matters of the scope of work, the importance of developing a database containing local and regional restrictions and/or conditions on the discharge water from EGCS to enhance transparency and clarity for ships and operators was underlined, also expressed the view that such a database could be intergrated into the existing MARPOL Annex VI reporting module in GISIS.



# Briefings of IMO Meeting

## PPR 9 (4 - 8 April 2022)

BRIEFING STA

*Flash*

No. IMO-0005-2022

(For sub-committee only 1 step as Flash)

- With regard to the scope of work on the establishment of a database of chemical and toxicological substances, PPR 9 agreed to further consider on the development of a database on chemical substances including regulatory matters.

### 9. Development of amendments to MARPOL Annex VI and the NOx Technical Code on the Use of multiple engine operational profiles for a main diesel engine (Agenda item 11)

- o PPR 9 (WG 2) reviewed the terms of reference for a correspondence group on prevention of air pollution from ships concerning the possible use of multiple engine operational profiles (EOPs).
  - Clarify whether multiple engine operational profiles are allowed; and consequently, prepare terms of reference for a correspondence group on Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships to identify what regulatory controls and/or amendments to MARPOL Annex VI and the NOx Technical Code 2008 may be needed.
  - Consider extending the scope of the discussion to also address test cycles and related amendments of the NOx Technical Code 2008 and advise the Sub-Committee accordingly.
- o Following discussion, the PPR 9 agreed to forward that all the documents considered under this agenda item to the established correspondence group on prevention of air pollution from ships to further consider the various issues raised.

### 10. Development of amendments to MARPOL Annexes I, II, IV, V and VI for port reception facilities (PRFs) (Agenda item 13)

- o The drafting group recognized that Regional Arrangements solely between ports within Arctic waters may be developed in amendments to MARPOL Annex I, II, IV, V and VI for port reception facilities (PRFs).
- o PPR 9 agreed to the draft output:
  - Draft amendments to MARPOL Annexes I, II, IV, V and VI, with a view to approval by MEPC 78 and subsequent adoption by MEPC 79.



# Briefings of IMO Meeting

## PPR 9 (4 - 8 April 2022)

BRIEFING STA

*Flash*

No. IMO-0005-2022

(For sub-committee only 1 step as Flash)

- Draft amendments to the 2012 Guidelines for the development of a regional reception facility plan (resolution MEPC.221(63)) and the associated draft MEPC resolution, with a view to adoption by MEPC 79, in conjunction with the above mentioned MARPOL amendments.

### 11. Revision of MARPOL Annex IV and associated guidelines (Agenda item 14)

- o PPR 9 (WG 3) agreed to the proposal to amend the title of this output to "*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; and further, on new ships, a prohibition of fitting comminuting and disinfecting systems (CDS).*"
- o The PPR 9 (WG 3) also considered the application of such a prohibition to existing ships. There was broad support in the working group that in the next step of work, options for cases where currently installed sewage systems may be replaced with CDSs on existing ships should be further discussed.
- o The PPR 9 (WG 3) agreed to re-establish a correspondence group on amendments to MARPOL Annex IV and associated guidelines, to progress the work intersessionally, with the terms of reference:
  - Development of draft amendments to the *2012 Guidelines on implementation of effluent standards and performance tests for sewage treatment plants and Guidelines on implementation of MARPOL Annex IV for sewage treatment plants.*
  - Development of amendments to the relevant regulations in MARPOL Annex IV concerning the use of comminuting and disinfecting systems for new ships.

### 12. Follow-up work emanating from the Action Plan to Address Marine Plastic Litter from Ships (Agenda item 15)

- o The Group finalized the draft terms of reference related to reducing the environmental risk associated with the maritime transport of plastic pellets, for



# Briefings of IMO Meeting

## PPR 9 (4 - 8 April 2022)

BRIEFING STA

*Flash*

No. IMO-0005-2022

(For sub-committee only 1 step as Flash)

inclusion in the final terms of reference for the Correspondence Group on Marine Plastic Litter from Ships.

- The Working Group developed the draft amendments to MARPOL Annex V to make the Garbage Record Book mandatory also for ships of 100 gross tonnage and above and less than 400 gross tonnage, for submission to MEPC 78 with a view to approval and subsequent circulation.
- The Group agreed draft terms of reference for a correspondence group on Marine Plastic Litter from Ships to further progress work on 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.

### 13. Unified interpretation (Agenda item 16)

- Proposing to add an additional paragraph to the existing unified interpretation of chapter 4 of the NOx Technical Code 2008, set out in circular MEPC.1/Circ.895
  - PPR 9 (WG 2) agreed to draft UI and some editorial changes to the proposed draft UI, for approval by MEPC 78 and eventual inclusion of the UI and its application to engine families.
- Proposing to add a unified interpretation for MARPOL Annex VI to circular MEPC.1/Circ.795/Rev.5. to provide clarity on the application of regulations 14.8 (In-use and onboard fuel oil sampling and testing) and 14.10 (In-use fuel oil sampling point) of MARPOL Annex VI.
  - There was no unified agreement for the submitted proposal is applicable to all ships of 400GT and over.
- Different understanding on the incinerator temperature rise test and proposing to modify the unified interpretation of regulation 16.9 of MARPOL Annex VI, as set out in circular MEPC.1/Circ.795/Rev.5
  - There was no unified agreement for the proposed amendment to the existing UI.
- As forwarded by MEPC 77, seeking clarifications on the use of ISO 8217 in the NOx Technical Code 2008 and for the possible need for future amendments to MARPOL Annex VI and the NOx Technical Code 2008 for the use of biofuels.





# Briefings of IMO Meeting

## PPR 9 (4 - 8 April 2022)

BRIEFING STA

*Flash*

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- PPR 9 (WG 2) agreed to editorial changes to the proposed UI, for approval by MEPC 78 and eventual inclusion in a revision of MEPC.1/Circ.795/Rev.5 considering the importance and urgency of addressing the issues raised to provide more clarity on the use of biofuels on board of ships and possible implications on NOx emissions.
- o Unified interpretations of provisions of the BWM Convention
  - ▶ Unified interpretations of the form of the International Ballast Water Management Certificate (IBWMC) concerning the principal ballast water management method(s) employed on the ship in order to issue a certificate in a consistent manner
    - PPR 9 (WG 2) agreed to draft text of the unified interpretation of appendix I to the BWM Convention, for approval by MEPC 78 and inclusion in BWM.2/Circ.66/Rev.3.
    - ▶ As forwarded by MEPC 77, proposing a unified interpretation of regulation B-3.10 of the BWM Convention concerning the deadline for compliance with the D-2 standard for ships constructed before 8 September 2017 but which do not have an initial survey associated with the IOPPC until after 8 September 2019.
      - A proposal was argued that the renewal survey may be completed after 8 September 2024, but did not receive sufficient support to be agreed.

#### 14. Any other business (Agenda item 19)

- o Development of a protocol for verification of ballast water compliance monitoring devices
  - PPR 9 (WG1) reviewed the report of correspondence group on Development of a protocol for verification of ballast water compliance monitoring devices (CMD) established by PPR 8, and concluded that the draft protocol to be finalized by established correspondence group, with a view to approval by PPR 10, focusing only on the outstanding issue of laboratory tests using treated water and the development of a standard reporting format.
- o Pollution prevention equipment for machinery space bilges of ships
  - With regard to proposing to amend paragraph 6.2.2 of the *Revised guidelines and specifications for pollution prevention equipment for machinery space bilges of*



# Briefings of IMO Meeting

## PPR 9 (4 - 8 April 2022)

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*ships* (resolution MEPC.107(49)) to include a provision for a light and sound alarm to be triggered and the overboard discharge of oily water to be stopped in the event that a 15 ppm bilge alarm had lost sample water, the majority agreed with the view that a proposal for a new output should be submitted to the Committee.

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