

Subject

Introduction of the outcomes of MEPC56

ClassNK

Technical Information

No. TEC-0707

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To whom it may concern

This is a summary report of the decisions and discussions taken at the fifty-sixth session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 56) held on 9 - 13 July 2007.

1. Adoption of Mandatory Instruments

The following amendments to the Mandatory Instruments were adopted at this session. The text of the adopted amendments will be posted on the IMO web-site(<http://www.imo.org> > Information Resources > Index of IMO Resolutions > MEPC).

(1) Amendments to MARPOL 73/78 Annex I (Resolution MEPC.164(56))

The editorial amendment to regulation 38.2.5 of MARPOL 73/78 Annex I (Reception facilities outside Special Areas) was adopted.

(2) Amendments to MARPOL 73/78 Annex IV (Resolution MEPC.164(56))

The amendment to regulation 11.1.1 of MARPOL 73/78 Annex IV was adopted and will enter into force on 1 December 2008. The amendment makes clear that the effluent generated by animals on board livestock carriers shall be discharged into a sea, not instantaneously, but at a moderate rate, as is currently the requirement for the discharge of untreated sewage from holding tank.

(3) Amendments to the revised IBC Code (Resolution MEPC.166(56))

The amendments to chapter 17, 18 and 19 of the revised IBC Code, as adopted by MSC 82 and approved by MEPC 55, were adopted. While the amendments will enter into force on 1 January 2009, the amendments are actually applied with the revised IBC Code which entered into force on 1 January 2007.

2. The Ballast Water Management Convention

(1) For assistance to implementation of the Convention, the following two Guidelines were adopted.

- the Guidelines for risk assessment under regulation A-4 of the BWM Convention (G7)
- the Guidelines for additional measures regarding ballast water management including emergency situations (G13)

(To be continued)

NOTES:

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(2) Approval of the Ballast Water Management Systems

Both basic and final approvals were granted to the “PureBallast system” proposed by Sweden and Norway. Basic approval was also granted to the “NK Ballast Water” proposed by the Republic of Korea.

For reference, list of ballast water management systems already approved in accordance with regulation D-3.2 of the Convention is as follows:

Name of the system	Proposed by	Type of approval
PureBallast system	Sweden and Norway	Basic and final approvals (at MEPC 56)
NK Ballast Water	Republic of Korea	Basic approval (at MEPC 56)
Special Pipe Ballast Water Management System (combined with Ozone treatment)	Japan	Basic approval (at MEPC 55)
EctoSys™ electrochemical system	Sweden	Basic approval (at MEPC 55)
Peraclean®Ocean	Germany	Basic approval (at MEPC 54)
Electro-Clean (Electrolytic disinfection) system	Republic of Korea	Basic approval (at MEPC 54)

3. Recycling of ships

The following work plan for the development of new Convention was agreed and new Convention will be adopted by a diplomatic conference, possibly in April 2009.

MEPC 57 held in April 2008 – Review of the draft Convention

MEPC 58 held in October 2008 – Finalize the draft Convention

Diplomatic Conference held in April 2009 – Adoption of the Convention

4. Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships (the AFS Convention)

At present, the AFS Convention has been ratified by the total to 24 States, representing 16.63% of the world’s merchant fleet shipping tonnage – against the required 25 States, representing 25% of the world’s merchant fleet shipping tonnage for entry into force of the Convention.

At this session, Panama announced that their government was expected to accede to the AFS Convention at soon. In case where Panama accedes to the Convention, the conditions for the entry into force of the Convention will be met and the Convention will enter into force one year after Panama’s ratification.

(Please refer to the Technical Information No.TEC-0496 regarding the survey procedures etc. of anti-fouling system on board ships. With regard to the survey procedures after entry into force of the Convention, we will issue a new Technical Information.)

A summary of the outcomes of MEPC 56 is also available on the IMO web-site (<http://www.imo.org>).

(To be continued)

For any questions about the above, please contact:

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