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Applicable to: Shipowners, ship managers, operators, agents and masters of Singapore-registered ships

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE 79th and 80th SESSION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE (MEPC 78 and MEPC 80) OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANISATION (IMO)

1. This circular informs the shipping community of the resolutions adopted by MEPC 79¹ and MEPC 80² and urges the shipping community to prepare for the implementation of these resolutions.
2. The mandatory resolutions adopted by **MEPC 79** include the following:
 - a. [Resolution MEPC.359\(79\)](#) – **Amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto**

*This resolution adopts amendments to MARPOL Annex I, II and IV concerning regional reception facilities within Arctic waters and Form of IOPP Certificate and Supplements. The amendments will enter into force on **01 May 2024** and will be given effect through amendments to the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea (Oil), Prevention of Pollution of the Sea (Noxious Liquid substances in Bulk) and Prevention of Pollution of the Sea (Sewage) Regulations.*

- b. [Resolution MEPC.360\(79\)](#) – **Amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto**

*This resolution adopts amendments to MARPOL Annex V concerning regional reception facilities within Arctic waters and Garbage Record Book. The amendments will enter into force on **01 May 2024** and will be given effect through amendments to the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea (Garbage) Regulations.*

¹ The 79th session of Maritime Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 79) was held in hybrid form from 12 to 16 December 2022.

² The 80th session of Maritime Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 80) was held in hybrid form from 03 to 07 July 2023.

- c. [Resolution MEPC.361\(79\)](#) – **Amendments to the Annex of the Protocol of 1997 to amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto**

*This resolution adopts amendments to MARPOL Annex VI concerning the Mediterranean Sea Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides and Particulate Matter. The amendments will enter into force on **01 May 2024** and will be given effect through amendments to the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea (Air) Regulations.*

*This resolution also informs the relevant stakeholders that in accordance with regulation 14.7 of MARPOL Annex VI, ships operating in the Mediterranean Sea Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides and Particulate Matter are exempt from the requirements in paragraphs 4 and 6 of regulation 14 of MARPOL Annex VI and from the requirements of paragraph 5 of that regulation, insofar as they relate to paragraph 4 of that regulation until **1 May 2025**.*

- d. [Resolution MEPC.362\(79\)](#) – **Amendments to the Annex of the Protocol of 1997 to amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto**

*This resolution adopts amendments to MARPOL Annex VI concerning regional reception facilities within Arctic waters, information to be included in the bunker delivery note (BDN) and information to be submitted to the IMO Ship Fuel Oil Consumption Database. The amendments will enter into force on **01 May 2024** and will be given effect through amendments to the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea (Air) Regulations.*

- e. [Resolution MEPC.363\(79\)](#) – **Amendments to the 2012 Guidelines for the Development of Regional Reception Facilities Plan (Resolution MEPC.221(63))**

This resolution adopts amendments to the 2012 Guidelines for the development of a Regional Reception Facilities Plan. The amendments will enter into force upon the entry into force of the amendments to MARPOL Annexes I, II, IV and VI on regional reception facilities within Arctic waters.

3. **MEPC 79** also adopted the following resolutions:

- a. [Resolution MEPC.364\(79\)](#) – **2022 Guidelines on the method of calculation of the attained Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI) for new ships**

This resolution contains guidance on the method of calculation of the attained Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI) for new ships. This Guidelines supersedes the 2018 Guidelines on the method of calculation of the attained Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI) for new ships (resolution MEPC.308(73), as amended).

- b. [Resolution MEPC.365\(79\)](#) – **2022 Guidelines on Survey and Certification of the Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI)**

This resolution contains guidance on the survey and certification of the Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI). This Guidelines supersedes the 2014 Guidelines on survey and certification of the Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI) (resolution MEPC.254(67), as amended).

- c. [Resolution MEPC.366\(79\)](#) – **Invitation to Member States to encourage voluntary cooperation between the port and shipping sectors to contribute to reducing GHG emissions from ships**

This resolution invites Member States to encourage voluntary cooperation between the port and shipping sectors to contribute to reducing GHG emissions from ships. This resolution revokes resolution MEPC.323(74).

- d. [Resolution MEPC.367\(79\)](#) – **Encouragement of Member States to develop and submit voluntary National Action Plans to address GHG emissions from ships**

This resolution invites Member States to voluntarily develop and submit their National Action Plans to address GHG emissions from ships to the Organization. This resolution revokes resolution MEPC.327(75).

- e. [Resolution MEPC.368\(79\)](#) – **Amendments to the 2014 Standard specification for shipboard incinerators**

This resolution adopts amendments to the 2014 Standard specification for shipboard incinerators (resolution MEPC.244(66)).

4. In addition to the adoption of resolutions, the following Unified Interpretation (UI) was also approved by **MEPC 79**:

- a. [BWM.2/Circ.66/Rev.4](#) – Unified interpretations to the BWM Convention and the BWMS Code (regulation E-1.1.5 and the form of the International Ballast Water Management Certificate, and paragraph 4.10 of the BWMS Code).
- b. [MEPC.1/Circ.795/Rev.7](#) – Unified interpretations to MARPOL Annex VI (Regulations 2.1.14, 8.3, 18.3, 18.3.2.2, 22.3, 26.3.1, 27.1, 28.7, 28.9 and Appendix IX).

5. The mandatory resolutions adopted by **MEPC 80** include the following:

- a. [Resolution MEPC.369\(80\)](#) – **Amendments to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004**

*This resolution adopts amendments to appendix II of the BWM Convention concerning the form of the Ballast Water Record Book. The amendments will enter into force on **01 February 2025** and will be given effect through amendments to the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea (Ballast Water Management) Regulations.*

- b. [Resolution MEPC.381\(80\)](#) – Establishment of the date on which regulations 15.3, 15.5 and 34.3 to 34.5 of MARPOL Annex I, in respect of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden Special Areas, shall take effect

This resolution establishes the discharge requirements of regulations 15.3, 15.5 and 34.3 to 34.5 of MARPOL Annex I in respect to the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden Special Areas and shall take effect on 01 January 2025.

- c. [Resolution MEPC.382\(80\)](#) – Establishment of the date on which regulation 6 of MARPOL Annex V, in respect of the Red Sea Special Area, shall take effect

This resolution establishes the discharge requirements of regulations 6 of MARPOL Annex V in respect to the Red Sea Special Area shall take effect on 01 January 2025.

6. **MEPC 80** also adopted the following resolutions:

- a. [Resolution MEPC.370\(80\)](#) – Amendments to the Guidelines for ballast water management and development of Ballast Water Management Plans (G4) (Resolution MEPC.127(53), as amended by Resolution MEPC.306(73))

This resolution adopts amendments to the Guidelines for ballast water management and development of Ballast Water Management Plans.

- b. [Resolution MEPC.371\(80\)](#) – Amendments to the 2017 Guidelines for ballast water exchange (G6) (Resolution MEPC.288(71))

This resolution adopts amendments to the 2017 Guidelines for ballast water exchange (G6).

- c. [Resolution MEPC.372\(80\)](#) – Guidelines for the use of electronic record books under the BWM Convention

This resolution adopts the Guidelines for the use of electronic record books under the BWM Convention.

- d. [Resolution MEPC.373\(80\)](#) – 2023 Guidelines for Thermal Waste Treatment Devices (TWTD)

This resolution adopts the 2023 Guidelines for Thermal Waste Treatment Devices (TWTD).

- e. [Resolution MEPC.374\(80\)](#) – 2022 Guidelines on Survey and Certification of the Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI) (Resolution MEPC.365(79))

This resolution adopts amendments to the 2022 Guidelines on survey and certification of the Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI).

- f. [Resolution MEPC.375\(80\)](#) – **Amendments to the 2021 Guidelines on the shaft / engine power limitation system to comply with the EEXI requirements and use of a power reserve (Resolution MEPC.335(76))**

This resolution adopts amendments to the 2021 Guidelines on the shaft/engine power limitation system to comply with the EEXI requirements and use of a power reserve.

- g. [Resolution MEPC.376\(80\)](#) – **Guidelines on life cycle GHG intensity of marine fuels (LCA Guidelines)**

This resolution adopts the Guidelines on life cycle GHG intensity of marine fuels (LCA Guidelines).

- h. [Resolution MEPC.377\(80\)](#) – **2023 IMO Strategy on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships**

This resolution adopts the 2023 IMO Strategy on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships (2023 IMO GHG Strategy).

- i. [Resolution MEPC.378\(80\)](#) – **2023 Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling to minimize the transfer of invasive aquatic species**

This resolution adopts the 2023 Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling to minimize the transfer of invasive aquatic species. This resolution revokes resolution MEPC.207(62).

- j. [Resolution MEPC.379\(80\)](#) – **2023 Guidelines for the development of the Inventory of Hazardous Materials**

This resolution adopts the 2023 Guidelines for the development of the Inventory of Hazardous Materials. This resolution supersedes the guidelines adopted by resolution MEPC.269(68).

- k. [Resolution MEPC.380\(80\)](#) – **Designation of the North-Western Mediterranean sea as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area**

This resolution designates the North-Western Mediterranean Sea, as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area.

7. The following Unified Interpretation (UI) was also approved by **MEPC 80**:

- a. [BWM.2/Circ.66/Rev.5](#) – Unified interpretations to the BWM Convention (the form of the International Ballast Water Management Certificate and regulations B-3.5 and B-3.10 of the BWM Convention).
- b. [MEPC.1/Circ.795/Rev.8](#) – Unified interpretations to MARPOL Annex VI (Regulations 18.5 and 18.6).

8. Any queries relating to this circular should be directed to MPA Shipping Division via email at shipping@mpa.gov.sg.

9. Do subscribe to our Telegram channel – t.me/MPASingapore to receive the latest updates.

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