



香 港 商 船 資 訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

**IMO Guidelines for Ballast Water Exchange in the Antarctic Treaty Area**

*To : Shipowners, Ship managers, Operators, Masters and Classification Societies*

***Summary***

This Note draws attention to the Guidelines for Ballast Water Exchange in the Antarctic Treaty Area adopted by IMO in July 2007.

1. In July 2007, at its 56th session, IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) adopted the Guidelines for Ballast Water Exchange in the Antarctic Treaty Area by resolution MEPC.163(56). The main purpose of these Guidelines is to provide an interim Ballast Water Regional Management Plan for Antarctica for ships entering Antarctic waters before the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (the Ballast Water Management Convention) comes into force.
2. A copy of the resolution MEPC.163(56) is attached for ready reference.
3. Shipowners, Ship Managers, Operators, Masters and Classification Societies are advised to note the Guidelines and act accordingly.

Marine Department  
Multi-lateral Policy Division

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