



香 港 商 船 資 訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Implementation of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 to Hong Kong

To : Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Masters and Classification Societies

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to advise the parties concerned on the commencement of the Merchant Shipping (Control of Ballast Water and Sediments) Regulation (Cap. 413Q) to implement the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (BWM Convention) to Hong Kong. This Note supersedes Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 3/2017 issued on 11 January 2017.

1. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) issued the attached Circular BWM.1/Circ.64 on 15 May 2020 announcing the extension of the BWM Convention to Hong Kong. The extension will take effect from 13 August 2020.
2. The new Merchant Shipping (Control of Ballast Water and Sediments) Regulation (Cap. 413Q) (hereafter referred to as the Regulation), which has been made for the implementation of the BWM Convention to Hong Kong in 2018, will come into operation on the same day of the extension. Details of the Regulation can be found on the following website: <https://www.elegislation.gov.hk>.
3. Hong Kong ship of 400 gross tonnage or above that is engaged in international voyage must have on board a valid International Ballast Water Management (IBWM) Certificate when the Regulation comes into operation. Shipowners and ship managers are recommended to apply the IBWM Certificate for their ships from the following recognized organizations at earliest convenience.

- American Bureau of Shipping (ABS);
- Bureau Veritas (BV);
- China Classification Society (CCS);
- DNV GL;
- Korean Register of Shipping (KR);
- Lloyd's Register (LR);
- Nippon Kaiji Kyokai (NK);
- RINA S.p.A (RINA); and
- Russian Maritime Register of Shipping (RS)

4. Any enquiries in relation to this Merchant Shipping Information Note may be directed to the Senior Surveyor of the Maritime Policy Branch at telephone number 2852 4395 or by e-mail to “hkmpd@mardep.gov.hk”.

5. The Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 3/2017 is hereby superseded.

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23 June 2020