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MEPC.1/Circ.753  
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**AMENDMENTS TO UNIFIED INTERPRETATION TO REGULATION 12.2 OF  
MARPOL ANNEX I**

1 The Marine Environment Protection Committee, at its sixty-second session (11 to 15 July 2011), approved the amendments to the Unified Interpretations to regulation 12.2 of MARPOL Annex I (MEPC 62/24, paragraph 7.20), as set out in the annex.

2 Member Governments are invited to use the annexed interpretation when applying the relevant provisions of regulation 12.2 of MARPOL Annex I and to bring it to the attention of all parties concerned.

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## ANNEX

### AMENDMENTS TO UNIFIED INTERPRETATION TO REGULATION 12.2 OF MARPOL ANNEX I

1 The existing Unified Interpretation to regulation 12.2 should read as an interpretation to regulation 12.2.1.

2 A new Unified Interpretation to regulation 12.2.2 is added as follows:

#### **Regulation 12.2.2 – Sludge tank discharge piping**

- 1 Regulation 12.2.2 should not be retroactively applied to ships delivered before 1 January 2014\*.
- 2 There should be no interconnections between the sludge tank discharge piping and bilge-water piping other than possible common piping leading to the standard discharge connection referred to in regulation 13.
- 3 For ships delivered before 1 January 2014\*, existing arrangements where the oil residue (sludge) tank(s) have discharge connections to oily bilge water holding tank(s), tank top or oily water separator may be accepted.

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\* Ship delivered before 1 January 2014 means a ship:

- .1 for which the building contract is placed before 1 January 2011; or
- .2 in the absence of a building contract, the keel of which is laid or which is at a similar stage of construction before 1 January 2012; or
- .3 the delivery of which is before 1 January 2014.