Amendments to the Annex V to the MARPOL 73/78

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to advise the parties concerned of the amendments to the Annex V of the MARPOL 73/78 to prohibit the discharge of cargo hold wash water contained cleaning agents classified as being harmful to marine environment. This amendment will enter into force internationally on 1 January 2013.

1. The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization at its 62nd session (MEPC 62) in July 2011 adopted the resolution MEPC.201(62) which completely revised the Annex V to the MARPOL 73/78. The major amendment is the prohibition of the discharge of cargo hold wash water contained cleaning agents classified as being harmful to marine environment. Besides, the discharge of lining and packing material which float is no longer permitted. The amendments will enter into force internationally on 1 January 2013.

2. MEPC has also developed the following Guidelines to facilitate the implementation of the new amendments:

- Resolution MEPC.219(63) – 2012 Guidelines for Implementation of MARPOL Annex V (revokes MEPC.59(33), as amended by MEPC.92(45));
- Resolution MEPC.220(63) – 2012 Guidelines for the Development of Garbage Management Plans (revokes MEPC.71(38));
3. The details of the related resolutions can be found on the website of Marine Department (http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html) as attachments to this Note. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, masters and classification societies of Hong Kong registered ships are required to note the amendments and act accordingly.

4. A table listing the different sets of amendments to the Annex V to the MARPOL 73/78 ever adopted by IMO with the date of entry into force on or before 1 January 2013 is attached as Annex 1 to this Note for easy reference.

Marine Department
Multi-lateral Policy Division

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