Early Application of the Verification procedures for a MARPOL Annex VI fuel oil sample

To: Shipowners, Ship Managers, Operators and Masters

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate the information contained in MEPC.1/Circ.882 related to the early application of the Verification procedures for a MARPOL Annex VI fuel oil sample as set out in the approved amendments to appendix VI of MARPOL Annex VI (regulation 18.8.2 or regulation 14.8).

1. At its 74th session, the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) agreed a method to determine whether the fuel oil delivered to, in-use or carried for use on board a ship is in accordance with the applicable sulphur limit of regulation 14 of MARPOL Annex VI. Accordingly, amendments to appendix VI of MARPOL Annex VI on Verification procedures for a MARPOL Annex VI fuel oil sample (regulation 18.8.2 or regulation 14.8) was approved with a view to adopt at 75th session of the MEPC. The amendments are expected to be entered into force in September 2021.

2. To ensure a consistent approach to verifying the sulphur limit of the fuel oil until the entry into force of the approved amendments, the MEPC also approved a circular (MEPC.1/Circ.882), as contained in the annex to this Note, that invited Member Governments to apply the approved amendments to appendix VI of MARPOL Annex VI related to the verification procedure for a MARPOL Annex VI fuel oil sample (regulation 18.8.2 or regulation 14.8) in advance of their entry into force.

3. A copy of the aforementioned circular (MEPC.1/Circ.882) can be found on the website of Marine Department (https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html) as attachment to this Note.
4. Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators and Masters are advised to note the information contained in the circular.

5. 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”.

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