



香 港 商 船 資 訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto

To : Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators and Masters

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to advise the parties concerned of the amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL) adopted by the 81st session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), which will enter into force on 1 January 2026.

1. The MEPC 81st session adopted the resolution MEPC.384(81) on 22 March 2024 to amend Protocol I of MARPOL concerning reporting procedures for the loss of containers. The amendments will enter into force on 1 January 2026.
2. In case of a ship involved in loss of freight container(s) with harmful substances in packaged form, the required reporting of the incident to the nearest coastal State by the master or other person having charge of the ship shall be made in accordance with the requirements in regulations 31 and 32 of Chapter V of the Annex to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (SOLAS).
3. Details of the amendments set out in the annex to the resolution MEPC.384(81) can be found on the website of Marine Department (<https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/legislation/notices/msin/index.html>) as attachment to this Information Note.
4. Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators and Masters are advised to note the information provided in the documents and act accordingly.

Marine Department
Multi-lateral Policy Division

2 December 2024