



## 香港商船資訊

## HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

**Amendments to the Annex of the Protocol of 1997 to amend 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, Masters and Classification Societies*

***Summary***

The purpose of this Note is to advise the parties concerned of the amendments to the Annex of the Protocol of 1997 to amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL Annex VI) adopted by the 81<sup>st</sup> session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), which will enter into force on 1 August 2025.

1. The MEPC 81<sup>st</sup> session adopted the resolution MEPC.385(81) on 22 March 2024 to amend MARPOL Annex VI concerning low-flashpoint fuels and other fuel oil related issues, marine diesel engine replacing a steam system, and accessibility of data and inclusion of data on transport work and enhanced granularity in the IMO Ship Fuel Consumption Database (IMO DCS). The amendments will enter into force on 1 August 2025.
2. The definition of “fuel oil” is revised to encompass all fuels without listing, and a new definition for “gas fuel” is added. Following bunkering of a low-flashpoint fuel or a gas fuel, a bunker delivery note with specified information is required to be provided to the receiving ship and to be kept on board. Sampling is not required for the delivered low-flashpoint fuel or gas fuel.
3. For a ship that undergoes major conversion involving installation of a marine diesel engine which replaces a steam system, the engine shall be considered as a non-identical replacement engine and may meet the Tier II Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) emission standard instead of Tier III in accordance with regulation 13.2.2 of MARPOL Annex VI.
4. Details of the amendments set out in the annex to the resolution MEPC.385(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.

5. Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Masters and Classification Societies are advised to note the information provided in the documents and act accordingly.

Marine Department  
Multi-lateral Policy Division

2 December 2024