No.: **67/2024**

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香 港 商 船 資 訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Recommendations for the Carriage of Plastic Pellets by Sea in Freight Containers

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

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to advise the parties concerned that the 81st session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) approved the *Recommendations for the carriage of plastic pellets by sea in freight containers*.

- 1. The MEPC 81st session approved the *Recommendations for the carriage of plastic pellets by sea in freight containers*, set out in MEPC.1/Circ.909, as the first step in a two-stage approach aimed at reducing the environmental risks associated with the carriage of plastic pellets in packaged form by sea, pending MEPC's consideration of future mandatory measures.
- 2. Plastic pellets should be packed in good quality packaging to prevent any loss of contents. Transport information should clearly identify those freight containers containing plastic pellets. Such freight containers should be stowed under deck wherever reasonably practicable or inboard in sheltered areas of exposed decks.
- 3. The *Recommendations* set out in MEPC.1/Circ.909 can be found on the website of Marine Department as attachment to this Information Note (https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/legislation/notices/msin/index.html).
- 4. 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