

Shipping Consultative Committee

Proposed Amendment to Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Sewage) Regulation (Cap. 413K)

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to seek members' views on the proposed amendment to the Hong Kong Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Sewage) Regulation (Cap. 413K) to implement the amendment to MARPOL Annex IV which will come into force internationally on 1 December 2008.

Backgrounds

2. On 13 July 2007, IMO adopted the Resolution MEPC.164(56) which sets out Amendments to the Annex of the Protocol of 1978 relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973. A copy of the resolution is enclosed for members' reference.

The New Requirements

3. The amendment to regulation 11.1.1 of MARPOL Annex IV is to specify the discharge criteria for the sewage originating from spaces containing living animals.

Implementation of International Requirements

4. The provisions of the above new requirements will come into force internationally on 1 December 2008. HKSAR has the obligation to keep abreast of international Conventions by implementing these new requirements through the amendment to Cap. 413K, which is the local legislation that gives effect to MARPOL Annex IV in HKSAR.

Consultation

5. Members are invited to comment on the above proposal to implement the amendment to MARPOL Annex IV on the ships engaged on international voyages.

Marine Department
Multi-lateral Policy Division
4 February 2008

Encl. Resolution MEPC.164(56)