

BRIEFING NOTES FOR MEPC 66 31 March to 4 April 2014

Agenda Item : 1 Adoption of the agenda; report on credentials

Agenda Item : 2 Harmful aquatic organisms in ballast water

Secretary General is pushing for completion of this work. Discussion on the concerns expressed in the industry paper MEPC 66/2/11. Policy Leads noted that there is a lack of data and examples of IMO type approved Ballast Water Management failures. There are industry concerns about possible expensive upgrades of existing installations in order to comply with an amended convention.

Agenda Item : 3 Recycling of ships

It is hoped that the threshold values for hazardous materials will be finalised in the near future.

Agenda Item : 4 Air pollution and energy efficiency

EEDI. Issues raised were confidentiality, ensuring that comparisons were like with like and not wishing to expand the content to more (and smaller) ship types.

Fuel Availability. Lack of activity in the refining industry. An availability review group start work in 2015.

Monitoring, Reporting and Verification. It is essential that this work progresses in order to keep it in the hands of IMO. It should not be extended to include NOx.

Agenda Item : 4.1 Further technical and operational measures for enhancing energy efficiency of international shipping

No discussion of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 5 Reduction of GHG emissions from ships

No discussion of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 6 Consideration and adoption of amendments to mandatory instruments

Discussion on the implementation date for NOx Tier III emission standards. The MEPC voted to delay the implementation of Tier III NOx level on vessels of less than 400GT until 2021 in line with the proposal by the Russian federation in 66/6/8.

Agenda Item : 7 Interpretations of, and amendments to, MARPOL and related instruments

No discussion on matters of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 8 Implementation of the OPRC Convention and the OPRC-HNS Protocol and relevant Conference resolutions

No discussion on matters of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 9 Identification and protection of Special Areas and Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas

No discussion on matters of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 10 Inadequacy of reception facilities

No discussion on matters of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 11 Reports of sub-committees

Discussion on outcomes related to the Polar Code in particular the required amendments to MARPOL. This MEPC session will look at the amendments process with technical subjects being dealt with later in the year.

Agenda Item : 12 Work of other bodies

No discussion on matters of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 13 Harmful anti-fouling systems for ships

No discussion on matters of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 14 Promotion of implementation and enforcement of MARPOL and related instruments

No discussion on matters of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 15 Technical co-operation activities for the protection of the marine environment

No discussion on matters of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 16 Role of the human element

No discussion on matters of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 17 Noise from commercial shipping and its adverse impacts on marine life

No discussion on matters of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 18 Work programme of the Committee and subsidiary bodies

No discussion on matters of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 19 Application of the Committees' Guidelines

No discussion on matters of interest to ISAF under this agenda heading

Agenda Item : 20 Any other business

Dates for MEPC 67 and MEPC 68

MEPC 67 is scheduled to be held from 13 to 17 October 2014 and MEPC 68 is tentatively scheduled to be held from 11 to 15 May 2015.