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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MARINE POLLUTION, 1973 Committee II Agenda item 2

CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT TEXT OF ANNEX I OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS 1973

Proposed Amendments to Regulation 1(16) of Annex I

Submitted by the United States of America

The definition of "clean ballast" contains an adaption of the language of a definition which appears in the 1969 Amendments to the 1954 Convention. The delegation of the United States believes that this definition can be simplified to enhance clarity without substantively changing its meaning. Accordingly, the United States proposes that paragraph (16) of Regulation 1 be amended to read as follows:

"Clean ballost" means ballast which, if discharged overboard from a stationary ship would not produce visible traces of oil on the surface of the water or on adjoining shorelines or cause a sludge or emulsion to be deposited beneath the surface of the water or upon adjoining shorelines. If the tank from which ballast is discharged is fitted with an oil content monitoring arrangement approved by the Administration, evidence based on such an arrangement to the effect that the oil content of the effluent did not exceed [15] parts per million shall be determinative that the ballast was clean, notwithstanding the presence of visible traces.