



IMCO

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
MARINE POLLUTION, 1973
Committee II
Agenda item 4

CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT TEXT OF ANNEXES IV AND V OF THE DRAFT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973

Progress Report of the Working Group on Annex IV (Continued)

A Working Group consisting of delegations of Australia, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Japan, Liberia, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, and observers from ICS, under the Chairmanship of Mr. K.B. Schumacher (USA), in continuing consideration of Annex IV of the Convention expressed the following:

Effluent Standards and Certification

1. The Working Group considered the fifth draft text of Regulation 4(1)(b) and 3(5)(a). Significant points discussed without resolution or of production of alternative texts were:

- (a) In performing tests of effluent (discharge) one deals with statistical phenomena which can give a wide variation in individual test results. There is a need for further work in developing standardized tests and testing procedures;
- (b) There can be variations between the results obtained from tests for initial certification and those obtained after the equipment has been in operation in a ship for

MP/CONF/C.2/WP.52

a time. Some, but not all of the factors involved are wear, ship motion, operator skill, non-sewage material introduced into the system and changes of intake water. This matter will need further consideration;

- (c) As effluent standards become more strict, there will probably be a greater need for lesser local standards provided for in Regulation 4(1)(c).

2. The Working Group considers the draft of Regulation 4(1)(b) and alternatives of Regulation 3(5)(a) given below as useful for further discussion in the Committee;

Proposed text of Regulation 4(1)(b)

"(b) the ship has in operation an approved sewage treatment plant which has been certified by the Administration to meet the requirements of Regulation 3(5)(a) of this Annex, and

- (i) the test results of the plant are laid down in the ship's valid International Sewage Pollution Prevention Certificate.
- (ii) Additionally, the effluent shall not produce visible floating solids in, nor cause discolouration of, the surrounding water; or "

Alternative I of Regulation 3(5)(a)

"(5) The Certificate shall be issued after a survey and inspection of the ship which shall be such as to ensure that the following items are in accordance with the aims of this Annex:

- (a) when the ship is equipped with a sewage treatment plant it is regarded as a suitable equipment when the following effluent requirements are met using test procedures based

on standards developed by the Organization:

- (i) total coliform count shall not exceed 10,000 per litre;
- (ii) total Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) shall not exceed [100] mg/litre of Oxygen at 20°C;
- (iii) total Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) shall not exceed [100] mg/litre;
- (iv) suspended solids shall not exceed [150] mg/litre.

The results of a test under normal operation conditions are laid down in the Certificate;"

Alternative II of Regulation 3(5)(a)

"5. The Certificate shall be issued after a survey and inspection of the ship which shall be such as to ensure that the following items are in accordance with the aims of this Annex:

- (a) When the ship is equipped with a sewage treatment plant it shall meet operational requirements based on standards and test methods developed by the Organization;"

It is understood that if differences of approach and standards shown by the alternative for Regulation 3(5)(a) cannot be resolved, then Regulation 4(1)(b) may require reconsideration.
