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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MARINE POLLUTION, 1973 Committee III Agenda item 3

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

Report of the Working Group

The Working Group consisting of delegations of Canada, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Norway, the United Kingdom, the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, under the Chairmanship of Dr. M. Waldichuk (Canada), reviewed Appendix III of Annex II in the light of the discussion of the Committee to establish a category D for Appendix II.

The Group agreed on the following text for a paragraph (1)(d) of Regulation 3 of Annex II:

"(d) Category D - Noxious liquid substances which if released into the sea from tank cleaning and deballasting operations would present a negligible hazard to either marine resources or human health or cause minimal harm to amenities or other legitimate uses of the sea and therefore require limited operational conditions."

The Group further agreed that all substances listed in Appendix III, as amended by the Group (MP/CONF/WP.6/Add.1) shall fall under Category D of Appendix II except for the following susbstances which should remain in Appendix III:

The Group further agreed on the following text for Regulation 5(4):

"The discharge into the sea of substances listed as Category D, as defined in Regulation 3(1)(d) of this Annex shall be prohibited. However, bilge or ballast water, or other residues or mixtures containing those substances may be discharged into the sea provided that such mixtures have been diluted by 1 part of the substance to 10 parts washwater and discharged as far as practicable from land while the ship is under way."

Subsequently, existing paragraphs (4), (5) and (6) will have to be renumbered accordingly.

The Group further agreed that in Regulation 2(1) in the second line after "bulk" the following words should be included:

"Except for Category D substances".

The Group agreed on a new Regulation 4:

"Regulation 4

Other Liquid Substances

(1) The substances listed in Appendix III to this Annex have been evaluated and found falling outside the Categories A, B, C and D, as defined in Regulation 3(1) of this Annex because they, when released into the sea from tank washing or deballasting operations, are presently considered to present no harm to human health or marine resources or amenities or other legitimate uses of the sea.

(2) The discharge of bilge or ballast water or other residues or mixtures containing substances referred to in paragraph (1) above shall not be subject to any requirements of this Annex."

The Group agreed on a new paragraph (1) of Regulation 2:

"For lategory D substances of Appendix II Regulations 10 and 11 shall not apply".

Existing paragraphs (1) and (2) will have to be renumbered accordingly.

The Group agreed on the following guidelines for categorization of Category D substances for Appendix I:

"Category D

Substances - Practically non-toxic to aquatic life, as expressed by a TLm greater than 100 but not greater than 1000 ppm; with a high biochemical oxygen demand (BOD); causing deposits blanketing the seafloor; practically non-hazardous to human health, with an LD₅₀ of more than 500 but not greater than 5000 mg/kg; and with slight to moderate reduction of amenities because of porsistency, smell or poisonous or irritant characteristics, possibly interfering with use of beaches."