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Circular Letter No.4160/Add.1
23 June 2020

To: Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (London Convention)
Contracting Parties to the 1996 Protocol to the London Convention (London Protocol)
United Nations Members that are neither Contracting Parties to the London Convention, nor to the London Protocol
United Nations, specialized Agencies, related organizations and other UN entities
Intergovernmental organizations granted observer status by the governing bodies under the London Convention and Protocol, and non-governmental organizations which the governing bodies have decided to invite

Subject: **Forty-third meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Convention and the fourteenth meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Protocol**

1 The Secretary-General wishes to advise that the forty-third meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Convention and the fourteenth meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Protocol, originally scheduled from 9 to 13 March 2020 but postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic (Circular Letter.4213, dated 6 March 2020), has been re-scheduled and will now take place by correspondence from Monday, 6 July to Friday, 18 September 2020.

2 The meetings will be conducted in English only. The provisional agenda for the meetings (LC/SG 43/1), prepared on the basis of the Work Programme of the Scientific Groups and the directions of the forty-first Consultative Meeting and the fourteenth Meeting of Contracting Parties, remains unchanged. Further documentation, including a revised annotated agenda (LC/SG 43/1/1/Add.1) containing actions proposed by the Chair of the Scientific Groups on each agenda item/sub-agenda item to be considered by correspondence, will follow in due course in advance of this meeting of the Scientific Groups.

Submission of documents

3 Documents that have already been submitted to this meeting of the Scientific Groups remain valid; these are available on IMODOCS. Further submissions during the correspondence period of the meetings will be limited to those responding to the actions proposed by the Chair of the Scientific Groups in the revised annotated agenda in document LC/SG 43/1/1/Add.1, which will follow in due course. The deadlines for the submission of documents to the meetings and the method of submitting documents are specified in the notes in annex 1.

ANNEX 1

REVISED MEETING DATES, PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS

For the forty-third meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Convention and the fourteenth meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Protocol to be held by correspondence from Monday, 6 July to Friday, 18 September 2020

Opening of the meetings

- 1 Adoption of the agenda
- 2 Waste Assessment Guidance
- 3 Marine geoengineering
- 4 CO₂ sequestration in sub-seabed geological formations
- 5 Reporting on dumping activities
- 6 Technical cooperation and assistance
- 7 Monitoring and assessment of the marine environment
- 8 Coastal management issues associated with activities to prevent marine pollution
- 9 Habitat modification and enhancement
- 10 Matters related to radioactive wastes
- 11 Outcome of Science Day
- 12 Guidelines, manuals, bibliographies and information exchange
- 13 Review of the LC/LP Scientific Groups Work Programme
- 14 Any other business
- 15 Election of Officers for both Scientific Groups
- 16 Consideration and adoption of the report

Notes:

1 The forty-third meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Convention and the fourteenth meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Protocol will be held by correspondence in accordance with the decision of the IMO Council at its thirty-second extraordinary session.

2 The items to be discussed by correspondence at the meetings will be limited to those set out in the revised annotated agenda (LC/SG 43/1/1/Add.1) which will contain actions proposed by the Chair of the Scientific Groups on each agenda item/sub-agenda. Document LC/SG 43/1/1/Add.1 will follow in due course and will contain information on how to provide comments by correspondence.

3 For the purpose of facilitating discussions, the agenda will be split into two sections for comments. Contracting Parties and observers are invited to submit comments in accordance with the schedule detailed below no later than the deadlines stipulated under each section. Further instructions on the submission of comments are detailed below:

Structure of discussions

Section 1: Agenda items 1 to 15 – as set out in document LC/SG 43/1/1/Add.1

Period for comments: Monday, 6 July 2020 to Friday, 31 July 2020

Contracting Parties and observers are invited to submit comments on the actions proposed by the Chair of the Scientific Groups on agenda items 1 to 15 as contained in document LC/SG 43/1/1/Add.1. Shortly after this deadline, the Chair of the Scientific Groups will prepare and submit a draft report of the meetings for consideration and adoption by the Scientific Groups as document LC/SG 43/WP.1.

Section 2: Agenda item 16 – as set out in document LC/SG 43/WP.1

Period for comments: Monday, 7 September 2020 to Friday, 18 September 2020

Contracting Parties and observers are invited to submit any comments on the draft report (LC/SG 43/WP.1), after which time the report will be finalized and published on IMODOCS as document LC/SG 43/16.

4 Contracting Parties and observers are invited to submit all comments to info@imo.org in accordance with the deadlines set out above.

5 Communications from Contracting Parties and observers in response to document LC/SG 43/1/1/Add.1 will be published in English only as they are received.

6 The documents submitted for this session of the Scientific Groups are available on IMODOCS, but not available to the public unless specifically requested by the submitter.

Processing of comments by delegates on draft actions proposed in document LC/SG 43/1/1/Add.1 and LC/SG 43/WP.1

7 Documents providing comments submitted in response to document LC/SG 43/1/1/Add.1 and LC/SG 43/WP.1 will be published on IMODOCS as soon as possible after receipt. Documents must be submitted by a registered participant for this meeting pursuant to annex 2.

8 In order to facilitate the prompt processing of documentation submitted for this meeting of the Scientific Groups, Contracting Parties and observers are requested to follow the guidelines on the Scientific Groups' organization and its method of work for the submission of documentation as modified and explained below:

- .1 documents submitted in response to document LC/SG 43/1/1/Add.1 and LC/SG 43/WP.1 should be in Word format, no longer than six pages in length (non-bulky documents);
- .2 documents should reach the LC/LP Secretariat by the deadlines set out above for each section;

- .3 documents should be submitted in Word format to info@imo.org;
- .4 for reasons of economy, documents should be submitted in single spacing, be as concise as possible and, in order to standardize the presentation of documents, the following word-processing format should be observed:
- format: Microsoft Word;
 - font: Arial;
 - font size: 11;
 - justification: full; and
 - margins: 2 cm top, 2.5 cm bottom, left and right.

9 A template is available on the IMODOCS website (<http://docs.imo.org>) for use in the preparation of documents.

ANNEX 2

REGISTRATION AT IMO MEETINGS

Delegates are advised that those who registered for the forty-third meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Convention and the fourteenth meeting of the Scientific Group under the London Protocol, originally scheduled from 9 to 13 March 2020 but postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, will need to re-register via the OMRS for this rescheduled meeting.

Member Governments, IGOs and NGOs who had not registered for the original meeting dates are required to provide, prior to the meeting date, the names of their representatives, including Permanent Representatives, heads of delegations, alternates, advisers or observers, via the Online Meeting Registration System (OMRS) as advised in Circular Letter No.3463 of 14 July 2014. This facilitates the production of the list of participants by the Secretariat.

Any matters relating to the use of the OMRS should be communicated to:

Registration Unit
Meeting Services and Interpretation Section
Email: onlineregistration@imo.org

No representative will be registered to attend the meeting without authorization from their OMRS Delegation Coordinator.
