

**GUIDELINES AND GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT
OF SHIPS' BALLAST WATER AND SEDIMENTS, 2004**

Table 1: Supplemental mandatory instruments

Resolution	Title	Status
MEPC.300(72)	Code for Approval of Ballast Water Management Systems (BWMS Code)	In effect since 13 October 2019

Table 2: List of Guidelines for the uniform implementation of the BWM Convention

Resolution	Title	Status
MEPC.152(55)	Guidelines for sediment reception facilities (G1)	
MEPC.173(58)	Guidelines for ballast water sampling (G2)	
MEPC.123(53)	Guidelines for ballast water management equivalent compliance (G3)	
MEPC.127(53)	Guidelines for ballast water management and development of ballast water management plans (G4)	Amended by MEPC.306(73)
MEPC.153(55)	Guidelines for ballast water reception facilities (G5)	
MEPC.288(71)	2017 Guidelines for ballast water exchange (G6)	Revokes MEPC.124(53)
MEPC.289(71)	2017 Guidelines for risk assessment under regulation A-4 of the BWM Convention (G7)	Supersedes MEPC.162(56)
MEPC.174(58)*	Guidelines for approval of ballast water management systems (G8)	Revokes MEPC.125(53) Superseded by MEPC.279(70)
MEPC.279(70)*	2016 Guidelines for approval of ballast water management systems (G8)	Supersedes MEPC.174(58) Revoked by the BWMS Code
MEPC.169(57)	Procedure for approval of ballast water management systems that make use of active substances (G9)	Revokes MEPC.126(53)
MEPC.140(54)	Guidelines for approval and oversight of prototype ballast water treatment technology programmes (G10)	
MEPC.149(55)	Guidelines for ballast water exchange design and construction standards (G11)	
MEPC.209(63)	2012 Guidelines on design and construction to facilitate sediment control on ships (G12)	Revokes MEPC.150(55)
MEPC.161(56)	Guidelines for additional measures regarding ballast water management including emergency situations (G13)	
MEPC.151(55)	Guidelines on designation of areas for ballast water exchange (G14)	

* Ballast water management systems installed on ships on or after 28 October 2020 should be approved taking into account the 2016 Guidelines (G8) / BWMS Code.

Table 3: Indicative list of other resolutions and guidelines related to the implementation of the BWM Convention

Resolution	Title	Status
MEPC 298(72)	Determination of the survey referred to in regulation B-3, as amended, of the BWM Convention	
MEPC.290(71)	The experience-building phase associated with the BWM Convention	
MEPC.287(71)	Implementation of the BWM Convention	Supersedes A.1088(28)
MEPC.253(67)	Measures to be taken to facilitate entry into force of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004	
MEPC.252(67)	Guidelines for port State control under the BWM Convention	
MEPC.228(65)	Information reporting on type approved ballast water management systems	Revokes MEPC.175(58)
MEPC.206(62)	Procedure for approving other methods of ballast water management in accordance with regulation B-3.7 of the BWM Convention	
MEPC.188(60)	Installation of ballast water management systems on new ships in accordance with the application dates contained in the ballast water management convention (BWM Convention)	
MEPC.163(56)	Guidelines for ballast water exchange in the Antarctic treaty area	

Table 4: Indicative list of BWM circulars related to the implementation of the BWM Convention

Circular	Title	Status
BWM.2/Circ.70/Rev.1	2020 Guidance for the commissioning testing of ballast water management systems	Supersedes BWM.2/Circ.70
BWM.2/Circ.69	Guidance on System Design Limitations of ballast water management systems and their monitoring	
BWM.2/Circ.67/Rev.1	Data gathering and analysis plan for the experience-building phase associated with the BWM Convention	Supersedes BWM.2/Circ.67
BWM.2/Circ.66/Rev.1	Unified interpretation of Appendix I (Form of the International Ballast Water Management Certificate) of the BWM Convention	Supersedes BWM.2/Circ.66
BWM.2/Circ.63	Application of the Convention to ships operating in sea areas where ballast water exchange in accordance with regulations B-4.1 and D-1 is not possible	
BWM.2/Circ.62	Guidance on contingency measures under the BWM Convention	
BWM.2/Circ.61	Guidance on methodologies that may be used for enumerating viable organisms for type approval of ballast water management systems	
BWM.2/Circ.52/Rev.1	Guidance on entry or re-entry of ships into exclusive operation within waters under the jurisdiction of a single Party	Supersedes BWM.2/Circ.52
BWM.2/Circ.46	Application of the BWM Convention to Mobile Offshore Units	
BWM.2/Circ.45	Clarification of "major conversion" as defined in regulation A-1.5 of the BWM Convention	
BWM.2/Circ.44	Options for ballast water management for Offshore Support Vessels in accordance with the BWM Convention	

Table 4 (continued)

Circular	Title	Status
BWM.2/Circ.43/ Rev.1	Amendments to the Guidance for Administrations on the type approval process for ballast water management systems in accordance with Guidelines (G8) (BWM.2/Circ.28)	Supersedes BWM.2/Circ.43
BWM.2/Circ.42/ Rev.2	Guidance on ballast water sampling and analysis for trial use in accordance with the BWM Convention and Guidelines (G2)	Supersedes BWM.2/Circ.42/ Rev.1
BWM.2/Circ.40	Issuance of Ballast Water Management Certificates prior to entry into force of the BWM Convention and Ballast Water Management Plans approved according to resolution A.868(20)	
BWM.2/Circ.37	Information that should be made available in proposals for approval of ballast water management systems in accordance with the Procedure for approval of ballast water management systems that make use of Active Substances (G9)	
BWM.2/Circ.34, as revised	List of ballast water management systems that make use of Active Substances which received Basic and Final Approval	Revised annually
BWM.2/Circ.33/ Rev.1	Guidance on scaling of ballast water management systems	Supersedes BWM.2/Circ.33
BWM.2/Circ.32	Applicability of the Ballast Water Management Convention to hopper dredgers	
BWM.2/Circ.29/ Rev.1	Clarification regarding the application dates contained in regulation B-3 of the BWM Convention	Supersedes BWM.2/Circ.29
BWM.2/Circ.27	Framework for determining when a Basic Approval granted to one ballast water management system may be applied to another system that uses the same Active Substance or Preparation	
BWM.2/Circ.21	Engineering Questionnaire on Ballast Water Management Systems	
BWM.2/Circ.20	Guidance to ensure safe handling and storage of chemicals and preparations used to treat ballast water and the development of safety procedures for risks to the ship and crew resulting from the treatment process	
BWM.2/Circ.17	Guidance document on arrangements for responding to emergency situations involving ballast water operations	
BWM.2/Circ.13, as revised*	Methodology for information gathering and conduct of work of the GESAMP-BWWG	
BWM.2/Circ.8	Harmonized implementation of the Guidelines for approval of Ballast Water Management Systems (G8)	
BWM.2/Circ.7	Interim Survey Guidelines for the purpose of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (resolution A.948(23))	

Note: all tables updated in April 2021. The lists in Tables 3 and 4 are not exhaustive. For a full list of resolutions and BWM circulars, please consult the [Index of IMO Resolutions](#) and the publicly available [Circulars](#) at IMODOCS.

* For applicability of revisions, see paragraph 4.1.1 of the reports of GESAMP-BWWG 35 onwards (e.g. GESAMP-BWWG 35/6, attached to document MEPC 72/4/3).