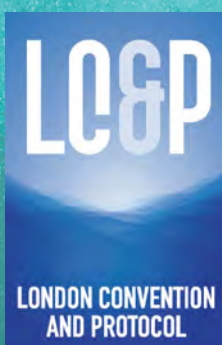


STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE **LONDON PROTOCOL AND LONDON CONVENTION**

MAY 2017



The **Strategic Plan** was adopted on 18 October 2016 by the thirty-eighth Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (London Convention), and the eleventh Meeting of Contracting Parties to the 1996 Protocol to the London Convention, 1972 (London Protocol).*

Purpose

The Strategic Plan is intended to facilitate the implementation of the London Protocol and the London Convention in order to contribute to the prevention of marine pollution and to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

This Strategic Plan sets out the strategic directions and targets that London Protocol and London Convention Parties are working to achieve by 2030. It is intended to serve as an overarching tool to guide, focus, and prioritize the work of the Parties and to communicate their shared objectives to the outside world.

Background

The Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (“the London Convention”) was one of the earliest multilateral environmental agreements. It was an international policy response to decades of dumping into the ocean, dredging and incineration at sea. Its creation was spurred on by the 1972 United Nations Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, and its provisions influenced the negotiation of the ocean dumping provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, particularly Articles 210 and 216.

Recognizing the need for a more precautionary and preventive approach the Parties undertook a comprehensive review of the Convention leading to the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter 1972 (the “London Protocol”), a new, free-standing treaty which entered into force in 2006 and is intended to replace the London Convention. The London Protocol now prohibits the dumping of wastes at sea with only a limited number of waste streams that can be considered for permits. The Parties to the Protocol have responded to new activities such as carbon capture and storage and marine geoengineering through amendments to the Protocol adopted in 2006, 2009 and 2013.†

Strategic Directions

SD 1 Promote ratification of or accession to the London Protocol

- 1.1 *Provide* specific technical and legal assistance and support to countries wishing to ratify or accede to the London Protocol
- 1.2 *Conduct* regular promotional events, disseminate information, and conduct regional outreach, etc.
- 1.3 *Promote* the objectives of the London Protocol and the benefits of ratification/accession
- 1.4 *Strongly encourage* countries to transition from the London Convention to the London Protocol

TARGET UNDER SD 1

Substantially increase the rate per year of new ratifications or accessions to the London Protocol‡

* LC 38/16, paragraph 3.15 and annex 2.

† Resolutions LP.1(1), LP.3(4) and LP.4(8).

‡ Since the entry into force until 2016, 21 Parties have ratified or acceded to the London Protocol. The rate of ratification or accession to the London Protocol is 2.1 per year during this period.

SD 2 Enhance effective implementation of the London Protocol and London Convention

- 2.1 *Provide* technical assistance and support to Contracting Parties, in particular developing countries
- 2.2 *Develop* guidance and take measures to address regulatory, technical, and scientific barriers to support effective implementation
- 2.3 *Encourage and facilitate* improved compliance, including on reporting, by Contracting Parties
- 2.4 *Encourage and facilitate* participation by Contracting Parties in the work of the London Protocol and London Convention

| TARGETS UNDER SD 2 | |
|---------------------------|--|
| By 2022: | 75% of all Parties report |
| By 2026: | 85% of all Parties report |
| By 2030: | 100% of all Parties report |
| By 2022: | 100% of all Parties with a national authority |
| By 2026: | 100% of all Parties with a national authority |
| By 2030: | 100% of all Parties with a national authority |
| By 2022: | 50% of Parties with appropriate domestic legislative or regulatory authorities to implement the London Protocol |
| By 2026: | 75% of Parties with appropriate domestic legislative or regulatory authorities to implement the London Protocol |
| By 2030: | 100% of Parties with appropriate domestic legislative or regulatory authorities to implement the London Protocol |
| By 2022: | 50% of Parties with appropriate domestic legislative or regulatory authorities to implement the London Convention |
| By 2026: | 75% of Parties with appropriate domestic legislative or regulatory authorities to implement the London Convention |
| By 2030: | 100% of Parties with appropriate domestic legislative or regulatory authorities to implement the London Convention |
| By 2022: | The London Protocol Compliance Group has 15 members representing all five United Nations regions |

SD 3 Promote the work of the London Protocol and London Convention externally

- 3.1 *Promote* the objectives of the London Protocol and London Convention within relevant international, regional and national organizations
- 3.2 *Strengthen* cooperation with other relevant international bodies on issues of common interest

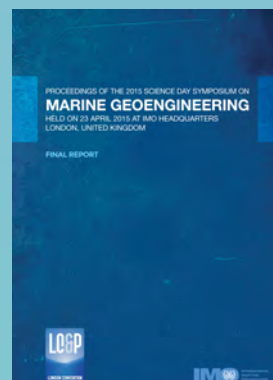
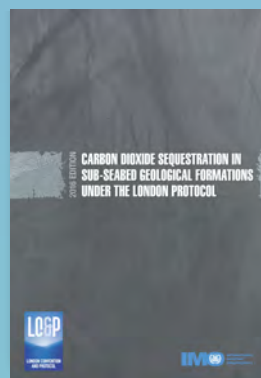
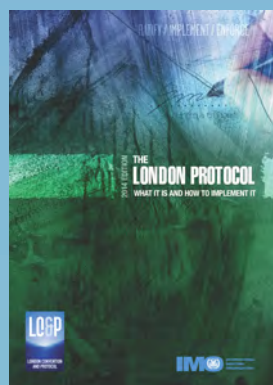
SD 4 Identify and address emerging issues in the marine environment within the scope of the London Protocol and/or London Convention

- 4.1 *Identify and evaluate* emerging trends and risks to the marine environment based on best available scientific evidence
- 4.2 *Respond* as appropriate to newly identified risks to the marine environment taking into account recommendations from the London Protocol and London Convention Scientific Groups

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ON THE LONDON PROTOCOL AND LONDON CONVENTION

In order to implement the Strategic Plan, Contracting Parties to the London Protocol and London Convention pledge to review relevant programs every year and to engage proactively with the international community.

A wide range of guidance and tools as well as the country tailored technical cooperation and assistance activities are also available to current and prospective partners, including the following publications:



For more information, please contact:

International Maritime Organization
Office for the London Convention and Protocol
4 Albert Embankment
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)20 7735 7611

Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

Email: olcp@imo.org

Web: www.londonprotocol.imo.org