Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Revised HELCOM RECOMMENDATION 19/10

Adopted 26 March 1998 and amended 5 March 2018
having regard to Article 13, Paragraph b)
of the Helsinki Convention

APPLICATION BY THE BALTIC SEA STATES OF GUIDELINES FOR HOLDING TANKS/OILY WATER SEPARATING OR FILTERING EQUIPMENT FOR SHIPS OF LESS THAN 400 -GROSS TONNAGE [*]

THE COMMISSION,

RECALLING Regulation 4 of Annex IV of the 1974 Helsinki Convention concerning the application of Annex I of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) for ships trading in the Baltic Sea Area,

RECALLING ALSO Paragraph 3, 6 and 9 of Regulation 15 and Paragraph 9 of Regulation 34 of Annex I of MARPOL concerning methods for the prevention of oil pollution from machinery spaces of ships, and cargo area of an oil tanker, of less than 400 gross tonnage,

NOTING Paragraph 4 and 5.2 of Regulation 14 of Annex I of MARPOL concerning obligation of the Administration to ensure that ships of less than 400 gross tonnage for machinery spaces are equipped, as far as practicable, to retain on board oil or oily mixture or discharge them in accordance with the requirements of Paragraph 6 of Regulation 15 of Annex I of MARPOL,

RECOGNIZING the need for supplementary guidelines to the above mentioned MARPOL Regulations in order to achieve uniform provisions for the Prevention of Pollution of the Baltic Sea Area by oil from machinery spaces of ships of less than 400 gross tonnage,

RECOGNIZING ALSO the need to avoid the retention of oil or oily mixtures in machinery space bilges due to the risk of polluting the sea during bilge pumping,

REALIZING that the presence of oil or oily mixtures in machinery spaces bilges would add fuel to an engine room fire,

RECOMMENDS that the Governments of the Contracting Parties shall apply the attached Guidelines for the prevention of pollution of the sea by oil from machinery spaces of ships of less than 400 gross tonnage,

REQUESTS ALSO the Governments of the Contracting Parties to report on the implementation of this Recommendation in accordance with the reporting format on the implementation of the Baltic Strategy for Port Reception Facilities for Ship-generated Wastes and Associated Issues.

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[*] *Applicable to all ships referred to in Regulation 15.3.2 of Annex I of MARPOL*

ATTACHMENT

Guidelines for the prevention of pollution of the sea by oil from machinery spaces of ships of less than 400 gross tonnage

1.   Such ships should be fitted with approved oily-water separating or oil-filtering equipment and sufficient tank capacity for oily residues, which enable the ship to comply with Paragraph 3 of Regulation 15 of Annex I of MARPOL;

or

2.   Such ships should be equipped with holding tank/tanks to retain generated oily bilge water and other generated oily residues, as well as oil or oily mixtures from the cargo area of an oil tanker, on board for subsequent discharge to reception facilities, which enable the ship to comply with Paragraph 9 of Regulation 15 and Paragraph 9 of Regulation 34 of Annex I of MARPOL;

3.   Tanks required by paragraphs 1. and 2. above should be equipped with pumping facilities and standard discharge connection to enable pipes/hoses of reception facilities to be connected.[*] The tank/tanks should have adequate capacity taking into account the type and condition of the ship, trading pattern, time at sea, etc.;

4.   For ships of less than 24 meters in length the Administration may allow other arrangements than stated in paragraphs 1.-3. above;

5.   For any ship whose constructional features are such as to render the above mentioned arrangements unreasonable or impracticable the Administration may allow other equivalent protection against pollution by oily residues.

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[*]   *Ships should preferably be equipped with the quick release connection shown in figure 1. of the European Standard EN 1305, but may alternatively be equipped with a standard discharge connection referred to in Regulation 13 of Annex I of MARPOL.*