

NOTES FROM MEPC 70 ON 24 OCT 16

1. **AGENDA ITEM 1** - PROVISIONAL AGENDA
 - a. Nothing significant to report

2. **AGENDA ITEM 2** - Decisions of other bodies
 - a. Nothing significant to report

3. **AGENDA ITEM 3** - Consideration and adoption of amendments to mandatory instruments
 - a. Nothing significant to report

4. **AGENDA ITEM 4** - Harmful aquatic organisms in ballast water.
 - a. 31 Documents were submitted to the Committee, all of which were submitted in sufficient time to note them and would therefore not be introduced by the Delegations. All of the INF Papers were noted by the Committee and not discussed. It was decided by the committee that the G8 Guidelines should be turned into a Code.
 - b. Paper 70/4/14 lays out the details of non-penalisation throughout the experience-building phase as long as the equipment has been properly installed, maintained and operated in accordance with the Manufacturer's Instructions. It will go to the Review Group for the development of the Plan.
 - c. Papers 70/4/17 – Liberia and 70/4/15 – India highlights concerns of the capability of the Industry to be able to cope with the number of BWMS that need to be fitted in time for the in-force date of the Convention and that the Implementation Date be delayed and the use of Ballast Water Exchange. There followed a long discussion amongst the delegations both for and against this Paper and also the efficacy of the new systems in being able to meet the standards required. It was agreed that the papers would not be forwarded to the review group as there was a clear split in the plenary. It was agreed that the slight majority in favour of deferring the date would draft alternative amendments and to be annexed to the report of the committee and these would be circulated in conjunction with those amendments agreed at MEPC 69 and both sets will be discussed at MEPC 71.
 - d. Denmark introduced a paper on the issue of exemptions from the BWC on the basis of the “same risk area”. A number of interventions were made stressing the need for adequate risk assessment to be carried out. It was agreed to forward the proposals to the review group.
 - e. Brazil introduced a paper on the issue of “periodic voyages” – where vessels make irregular international voyages for the purposes of dry-docking etc. It was agreed that this paper would be forwarded to the review group.
 - f. India introduced a proposal for an alternative method of compliance with the BWC i.e. the ballast water boat. This proposal and the commenting paper from Iran were forwarded to the review group.

5. **AGENDA ITEM 5** - Air pollution and energy efficiency
 - a. **Subject of EEDI reviews required under regulation 21.6 of MARPOL Annex VI**
 - i. Nothing significant to report

b. Subject Guidelines on the method of calculation of the attained EEDI for new ships.

- i. Nothing significant to report.

c. Subject of minimum propulsion power to maintain the manoeuvrability of ships in adverse conditions. It was good that a number of delegations spoke up to urge that we need to be careful not to reduce emissions to the point where smaller engines needed to be used that would leave ships underpowered. IFSMA Intervened very strongly to support the ICS Paper MEPC 70/5/30

"IFSMA agrees very strongly with the wise words of ICS. Shipmasters encounter severe weather conditions highlighted by ICS on a daily basis around the world and lack of power in these situations has severe consequences. We urge that the Working Group takes this into account in its deliberations."

At the break, delegation of France came and thanked IFSMA for the intervention. The Chair stated that all the comments from the delegations and Observers will be summarised on this subject, but regretted that it will have to be taken into account at the MEPC 71 as there is too much for the current Working Group to undertake. It may be necessary to have support of a Master Mariner for this and the WG. Papers to be checked early and will touch base with ICS to perhaps co-sponsor Paper.

At the Reception at the end of the day the Secretary General approached me and thanked me for my good and timely intervention.

d. Paper 70/5/6 Liberia (Chair of Steering Committee on fuel oil availability to achieve the 0.5% maximum Sulphur content of fuel oil by Jan 2020.) It was agreed that the target is achievable. A long discussion took place in Plenary and only Russia, Brazil, Thailand, India, Panama, Indonesia, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Iran, Phillipines, Mexico, spoke against the 2020 implementation date and asked for 2025.

- i. Chair summed up that the Paper should be noted and that IMO should implement the 0.5% on 1 Jan 2020. Noted nations concerns about achieving implementation because of lack of fuel availability, PPR 4 to develop an road map and implementation plan for MEPC 71.
- ii. Secretariat to produce a Resolution which will be delivered to the Committee on Fri.

e. Paper 70/5/Rev 1 and 70/5/1 Designate North Sea and Baltic Sea as an emission control area for Nitrogen Oxides from 1 Jan 2021. Recommend a Technical Group be established at PPR 4 to review this. Chair agreed that the Committee should designate the areas as Mission Control areas as submitted, but with some exemptions requested by the USA in their Paper 70/5/29 for specific transits of non-compliant vessels.

6. AGENDA ITEM 6 - Further technical and operational measures for enhancing energy efficiency of international shipping

- a. Nothing Significant to report

7. **AGENDA ITEM 7** - Reduction of GHG emissions from ships
 - a. The Chair summed up the introduction of all the Papers. The WG would take all the Documents submitted under this Agenda Item and prepare a document for the Committee to discuss/assess to take forward the long-term reduction of GHG. Only comments from the floor that would assist the WG to achieve its goal should be given. There followed 3 hours of National Delegations intervening and providing no information to assist the WG.
 - b. The WG was formed and to report to the Committee on Fri. Nothing significant to report.
8. **AGENDA ITEM 8** - Identification and protection of Special Areas and PSSAs
 - a. Paper 70/8 – Papua New Guinea. The Paper was agreed by all and it was forwarded to the Technical Group for review.
9. **AGENDA ITEM 9** - Pollution prevention and response
 - a. Nothing significant to report
10. **AGENDA ITEM 10** - Reports of other sub-committees
 - a. Nothing significant to report
11. **AGENDA ITEM 11** - Technical cooperation activities for the protection of the marine environment
 - a. Nothing significant to report
12. **AGENDA ITEM 12** - Capacity building for the implementation of new measures
 - a. Nothing significant to report
13. **AGENDA ITEM 13** - Analysis and consideration of recommendations to reduce administrative burdens in IMO instruments as identified by the SG-RAR
 - a. Nothing significant to report
14. **AGENDA ITEM 14** - Application of the Committees' Guidelines
 - a. Nothing significant to report
15. **AGENDA ITEM 15** - Work programme of the Committee and subsidiary bodies
 - a. Nothing significant to report