

MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION
COMMITTEE
79th session
Agenda item 1

MEPC 79/1/1
21 October 2022
Original: ENGLISH
Pre-session public release:

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Annotations to the provisional agenda and provisional timetable

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document provides information on the action the Committee will be invited to take in relation to the items on the agenda of MEPC 79. Annotations to the provisional agenda are contained in annex 1 and the provisional timetable for the meeting is set out in annex 2.

Strategic direction, if applicable: Not applicable

Output: Not applicable

Action to be taken: Paragraph 9

Related documents: MEPC 79/1; MEPC 78/17, MEPC 78/17/Add.1, Circular Letter No.4590 and any other documents as specified

Annotations to the provisional agenda

1 The provisional agenda for the meeting, prepared in accordance with the list of items to be included in the agenda of MEPC 79 agreed at MEPC 78 (MEPC 78/17/Add.1, annex 27), has been circulated as document MEPC 79/1.

2 The annotations to the provisional agenda, set out in annex 1, provide information on the action the Committee will be invited to take under each agenda item.

Use of hybrid meeting capability to complement in-person participation

3 Pursuant to the decisions of the Council, at its 127th regular session (C 127), hybrid meeting capability will be implemented to complement in-person meetings from September 2022, for a trial period of one year. In this respect, the Council also agreed to continue to apply the Rules of Procedure of the Council and the Interim Guidance to facilitate remote sessions of the IMO Council during the COVID-19 pandemic (annex 3 to document C/ES.32/D), as appropriate. Information on hybrid meetings is provided in Circular Letter No.4623. As indicated in the above-mentioned circular letter, the Secretariat will put in place the necessary arrangements for the conduct of hybrid meetings including the option on the

Online Meeting Registration System (OMRS) for Member States to indicate whether the participation is in person or remote. Working, drafting and other groups to be established during the session may be also complemented by hybrid meeting capabilities. The working hours for the session will be from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (UTC) each day.

Provisional timetable

4 A provisional timetable for the conduct of MEPC 79, prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, is set out in annex 2. The timetable is of a tentative nature and is likely to be modified closer to the meeting, as appropriate.

Organization of work for the session

5 The document on *Organization and method of work of the Maritime Safety Committee and the Marine Environment Protection Committee and their subsidiary bodies* (MSC-MEPC.1/Circ.5/Rev.3) (Committees' Method of Work) will be strictly adhered to.

Briefing on meetings of other IMO bodies

6 Since MEPC 79 will consider the outcome of the meetings of the Council, the Maritime Safety Committee and other relevant committees and sub-committees, as appropriate, delegations attending the session should ensure that they are fully briefed on the outcome of those meetings.

Related documents

7 For reasons of economy, documents referred to during MEPC 79 which have already been issued for any other IMO meeting will **not** be reissued. Delegations are requested to bring their own copies of such documents.

Working, drafting, technical and review groups

8 Following a review of the documentation submitted to this session, and having taken into account the relevant decisions of MEPC 78, the Chair, in consultation with the Secretariat, proposes that the following working, drafting, technical and review groups be established at this session:

- .1 Working Group on Air Pollution and Energy Efficiency;
- .2 Working Group on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships;
- .3 Drafting Group on Amendments to Mandatory Instruments;
- .4 Technical Group on the Designation of PSSA; and
- .5 Ballast Water Review Group.

Action requested of the Committee

9 The Committee is invited to note the information provided, in particular the annotations to the provisional agenda, set out in annex 1, and the provisional timetable, set out in annex 2, and take action as deemed appropriate.

ANNEX 1

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1 Adoption of the agenda

The Committee will be invited to adopt the agenda (MEPC 79/1) and approve the annotations thereto and the provisional timetable for its seventy-ninth session (MEPC 79/1/1).

2 Decisions of other bodies

The Committee will be invited to consider the outcomes of C 127, LEG 109, MSC 105, FAL 46 and MSC 106 (urgent matters only) on matters of relevance to its work.

3 Consideration and adoption of amendments to mandatory instruments

3.1 The Committee will be invited to consider, with a view to adoption, in accordance with article 16(2) of the MARPOL Convention, draft amendments to:

- .1 MARPOL Annexes I, II and IV (Regional reception facilities within Arctic waters);
- .2 MARPOL Annex V (Regional reception facilities within Arctic waters and Garbage Record Book);
- .3 MARPOL Annex VI (Mediterranean Sea SO_x Emission Control Area); and
- .4 MARPOL Annex VI (regional reception facilities within Arctic waters, information to be included in the bunker delivery note (BDN) and information to be submitted to the IMO Ship Fuel Oil Consumption Database).

3.2 The draft amendments to MARPOL Annexes I, II, IV and V, as referred to in paragraphs 3.1.1 and 3.1.2, were approved by MEPC 78 (MEPC 78/17, paragraphs 8.19 and 9.9; and annexes 18 and 22) and circulated by the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 16(2)(a) of the MARPOL Convention, under cover of Circular Letter No.4578 of 10 June 2022. The draft amendments to MARPOL Annex VI, as referred to in paragraphs 3.1.3 and 3.1.4, were approved by MEPC 78 (MEPC 78/17, paragraphs 5.26, 7.119 and 11.17; and annexes 7 and 23) and circulated by the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 16(2)(a) of the MARPOL Convention, under cover of Circular Letter No.4579 of 10 June 2022.

3.3 A drafting group is expected to be established to finalize the text of the amendments.

4 Harmful aquatic organisms in ballast water

4.1 The Committee will be invited to consider in particular the following issues, together with any other submissions received under the agenda item and documents whose consideration have been deferred to this session by MEPC 78:

- .1 outcome of GESAMP-BWWG 42;
- .2 application of the BWM Convention to ships operating at ports with challenging water quality;

- .3 temporary storage of treated sewage and grey water in ballast tanks;
- .4 form of Ballast Water Record Book;
- .5 example ballast water reporting form;
- .6 proposed unified interpretations to provisions of the BWM Convention; and
- .7 application of the BWM Convention to specific ship types.

4.2 A Ballast Water Review Group is expected to be established to consider matters referred to it by the Committee.

5 Air pollution prevention

5.1 The Committee will be invited to consider in particular the following issues, together with any other submissions received under the agenda item as well as documents whose consideration have been deferred to this session by MEPC 78:

- .1 the implementation of the Global 0.50% sulphur limit, including matters relating to exhaust gas cleaning systems (EGCS); and
- .2 matters relating to biofuels and biofuel blends.

5.2 A working group is expected to be established to consider matters referred to it by the Committee.

6 Energy efficiency of ships

6.1 The Committee will be invited to consider in particular the following issues, together with any other submissions received under the agenda item as well as documents whose consideration have been deferred to this session by MEPC 78:

- .1 report of fuel oil consumption data submitted to the IMO Ship Fuel Oil Consumption Database in GISIS (reporting year: 2021);
- .2 proposed amendment to the 2018 Guidelines on the method of calculation of the Attained Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI) for new ships; and
- .3 report of the Correspondence Group on the Possible Introduction of EEDI Phase 4.

6.2 The working group envisaged under agenda item 5 (see paragraph 5.2) may be requested to also consider matters relating to this agenda item.

7 Reduction of GHG emissions from ships

7.1 The Committee will be invited to consider in particular the following issues, together with any other submissions received under the agenda item as well as documents whose consideration have been deferred to this session by MEPC 78, taking into account the progress made at the thirteenth meeting of the Intersessional Working Group on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships, as appropriate:

- .1 development of a Revised Strategy on reduction of GHG emissions from ships;
- .2 proposals on candidate mid-term measures in the context of Phase II of the Work plan for the development of mid- and long-term measures;
- .3 completion of the lessons-learned exercise of the comprehensive impact assessment of the short-term measure and of the review of the *Procedure for assessing impacts on States of candidate measures* (MEPC.1/Circ.885);
- .4 further development of the draft guidelines on life cycle GHG intensity of marine fuels, taking into account the interim report of the Correspondence Group on Marine Fuel Life Cycle GHG Analysis;
- .5 matters related to the implementation of the short-term GHG reduction measure and its review;
- .6 proposals related to onboard CO₂ capture; and
- .7 proposals on the revision of the IMO Fuel Oil Consumption Data Collection System (IMO DCS).

7.2 A working group is expected to be established to consider matters referred to it by the Committee.

8 Follow-up work emanating from the Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships

The Committee will be invited to consider in particular the recommendations from the review of the terms of reference for the IMO Study on marine plastic litter from ships, taking into account the report by an external consultant, together with any other submissions received under the agenda item.

9 Reports of other sub-committees

The Committee will be invited to consider the outcomes of HTW 8 (remaining matters), SSE 8, III 8 and CCC 8, together with any other submissions received under the agenda item.

10 Identification and protection of Special Areas, ECAs and PSSAs

10.1 The Committee will be invited to consider a proposal for the designation of a Particular Sensitive Sea Area in the North-Western Mediterranean Sea to protect cetaceans from international shipping, together with any other submissions received under the agenda item.

10.2 A technical group is expected to be established to consider matters referred to it by the Committee.

11 Application of the Committees' method of work

The Committee will be invited to consider submissions received under the agenda item.

12 Work programme of the Committee and subsidiary bodies

The Committee will be invited to consider and agree its work programme and that of its subsidiary bodies; any proposals for new outputs submitted to the session; and the items to be included in the agendas for MEPC 80.

13 Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair

In accordance with rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee, the Committee is expected to elect a new Chair and a new Vice-Chair for 2023.

14 Any other business

The Committee will be invited to consider any submissions received and any matters raised under this agenda item.

15 Consideration of the report of the Committee

The Committee will be invited to consider and adopt the report of its seventy-ninth session.

ANNEX 2
PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Date	Agenda item	Groups
Monday, 12 December 2022	1 Adoption of the agenda 2 Decisions of other bodies 7 Reduction of GHG emissions from ships 3 Consideration and adoption of amendments to mandatory instruments	WG2 DG
Tuesday, 13 December 2022	10 Identification and protection of Special Areas, ECAs and PSSAs 5 Air pollution prevention 6 Energy efficiency of ships	TG WG1 WG1
Wednesday, 14 December 2022	4 Harmful aquatic organisms in ballast water 8 Follow-up work emanating from the Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships 9 Reports of other sub-committees	RG All groups to meet
Thursday, 15 December 2022	11 Application of the Committees' method of work 14 Any other business 13 Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair Reports of groups	
Friday, 16 December 2022	12 Work programme of the Committee and subsidiary bodies 15 Consideration of the report of the Committee	

WG1 Working Group on Air pollution and Energy Efficiency
 WG2 Working Group on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships
 DG Drafting Group on Amendments to Mandatory Instruments
 RG Ballast Water Review Group
 TG Technical Group on the Designation of PSSA