



MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION  
COMMITTEE  
58th session  
Agenda item 3

MEPC 58/3/1  
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## RECYCLING OF SHIPS

### Outcome of communications with the Stockholm Convention and with the ISO

#### Note by the Secretariat

#### SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This document reports on the outcome of communications with the Stockholm Convention and with the ISO
<i>Strategic Direction:</i>	7.1
<i>High-level action:</i>	7.1.2
<i>Planned Output:</i>	7.1.2.1
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 10
<i>Related documents:</i>	MEPC 57/21, MEPC 57/3/14 and MEPC 57/3/19

#### OUTCOME OF COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION

1 MEPC 57 had noted that the Working Group on Ship Recycling had considered the submission by Norway proposing to include a further three Hazardous Materials in appendices 1 and 2 of the Annex to the draft convention (MEPC 57/3/19). The same proposal had been discussed by the third Intersessional Working Group on Ship Recycling. Whilst the working group had been divided over the inclusion of two or three of the substances proposed by Norway, the group had finally decided against the inclusion of any new entries in Appendices 1 and 2. More particularly, some delegations had felt that such decisions should best be taken by experts under the provisions of regulations 6 and 7 of the Annex to the draft convention on ship recycling.

2 In that connection, the MEPC 57 instructed the Secretariat to liaise with the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and to report to MEPC 58 on the status of that Convention's consideration of the three substances which had been proposed by Norway for inclusion in appendices 1 and 2 of the Annex to the draft convention. The following provides the information received from the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention (see paragraph 3.55 of MEPC 57/21).

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### **PFOS and related substances**

3 Perfluorooctane sulfonates (PFOS) and PFOS-related substances (PFOS =  $C_8F_{17}SO_2X$  where  $X = OH$ , metal salts, halogenids, amids and other derivates including polymers). PFOS and related substances were proposed for listing under Annex A or B of the Stockholm Convention by Sweden in 2005. Subsequently, a Risk Profile and then a Risk Management Evaluation were developed by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (POPRC).

4 The fourth meeting of POPRC, to be held between 13 to 17 October 2008 in Geneva, in preparation for the decision by the Conference of the Parties in 2009, will possibly discuss risk reduction strategy for PFOS and thereafter, the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention (COP-4), to be held between 4 to 8 May 2009 in Geneva, will consider the adoption of the ban in the use of PFOS and related substances, including a possible list of exemptions. Entry into force may therefore be expected in May 2010.

5 It should also be noted that the term “PFOS related substances” is too general and that the Stockholm Convention will instead list specific chemicals, such as PFOS-Fluoride and PFOS and its salt.

### **Brominated Flame Retardant: HBCDD**

6 Brominated Flame Retardant: HBCDD (CAS No. 25637-99-4). There are several Brominated Flame Retardant substances. Two of these are being evaluated by the Stockholm Convention: The first one is “Pentabromodiphenyl ether” (proposed by Norway) which will be considered for being banned by COP-4. The second substance is the “Commercial octabromodiphenyl ether” (proposed by the European Union) which is awaiting a Risk Management Evaluation by POPRC-4.

7 It should also be noted that Brominated Flame Retardant: HBCDD refers to Hexabromocyclododecane which currently has not been nominated to the Stockholm Convention.

### **Trichlorobenzene (TCB)**

8 Trichlorobenzene (TCB) (Selected substance: CAS No. 120-82-1). Trichlorobenzene has not been nominated to the Stockholm Convention as yet.

### **OUTCOME OF COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE ISO**

9 The Secretariat communicated to the Chairman of ISO TC8 the decision of MEPC 57 for the Secretariat to continue its liaison with ISO with a view to obtaining the information described in paragraph 18 of document MEPC 57/3/14 and making it available to the Committee for action as appropriate (see paragraph 3.43 of MEPC 57/21). In response, ISO offered to submit a document containing the requested information directly to MEPC 58 in order not to delay the submission of the present document.

### **Action requested of the Committee**

10 The Committee is invited to consider the above information and take action as appropriate.