

MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION
COMMITTEE
81st session
Agenda item 1

MEPC 81/1
28 July 2023
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Pre-session public release:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

**for the eighty-first session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee,
to be held from Monday, 18 March to Friday, 22 March 2024
at IMO Headquarters, 4 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR**

Session commences at 9.30 a.m. (UTC) on Monday, 18 March 2024

- Opening of the session
- 1 Adoption of the agenda
 - 2 Decisions of other bodies
 - 3 Consideration and adoption of amendments to mandatory instruments
 - 4 Harmful aquatic organisms in ballast water
 - 5 Air pollution prevention
 - 6 Energy efficiency of ships
 - 7 Reduction of GHG emissions from ships
 - 8 Follow-up work emanating from the Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships
 - 9 Pollution prevention and response
 - 10 Reports of other sub-committees
 - 11 Identification and protection of Special Areas, ECAs and PSSAs
 - 12 Technical cooperation activities for the protection of the marine environment
 - 13 Application of the Committees' method of work
 - 14 Work programme of the Committee and subsidiary bodies
 - 15 Any other business
 - 16 Consideration of the report of the Committee

Notes:

1 In accordance with the *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.5):

- .1 documents should be received by the Secretariat as follows:¹
 - .1 documents containing proposals for unplanned outputs, by **Friday, 15 December 2023 (13-week deadline)**;
 - .2 documents (including information documents) containing more than six pages of text (bulky documents²), by **Friday, 15 December 2023 (13-week deadline)**;
 - .3 non-bulky documents including information documents (six pages or fewer) and bulky information documents submitted in electronic format, by **Friday, 12 January 2024 (nine-week deadline)**; and
 - .4 documents (four pages or fewer) commenting on those referred to in sub-paragraphs .1 to .3 above, as well as those commenting on documents previously submitted to MEPC 79 and MEPC 80 and whose consideration had been deferred to MEPC 81, by **Friday, 26 January 2024 (seven-week deadline)**. These documents should start with a paragraph clearly indicating the document on which comments are made and stating that the document is submitted in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 6.12.5 of the Committees' Method of Work;
- .2 for reasons of economy, documents should be submitted in single spacing, and be as concise as possible, and:
 - .1 all documents should include a brief summary prepared in accordance with the Committees' Method of Work;
 - .2 substantive documents should conclude with a summary of the action that the Committee is invited to take; and
 - .3 information documents should conclude with a summary of the information contained therein;

¹ Documents other than information documents and reports from sub-committees, working, drafting, correspondence and other working groups and the Secretariat, which contain more than 20 pages, in line with paragraph 6.11 of the Committees' Method of Work, will not be translated in their entirety. Such documents should include, for translation purposes, a summary not longer than four pages, with the technical content submitted as an annex in the language needed by working groups (i.e. English).

² In the case of documents containing more than 50 pages, the provisions of paragraph 6.12.1 of the Committees' Method of Work are to be applied.

.3 the following word processing format should be observed in order to standardize the presentation of documents:

- font: Arial;
- font size: 11;
- justification: full;
- margins: 2 cm top, 2.5 cm bottom, left and right.

A template is available on the IMODOCS website for use in the preparation of documents.

To facilitate processing, documents should be submitted via the new Meeting Document Submission Portal on IMODOCS (Submission Portal), as set out in Circular Letter No.4662. Should any problems be encountered that prevent submission of a document via the Submission Portal, submitters should contact the Secretariat at imodocs@imo.org and copy MED@imo.org without delay.

2 The Committees' Method of Work, inter alia, requests the Secretariat to strictly apply the rules concerning the submission of documents and not to accept late submissions from Governments or delegations.

3 In order to improve access to information and increase transparency, submitters of meeting documents are invited to give their consent for their documents to be released to the public prior to the meeting by checking the "opt-in box" at the top right corner of the new document template provided on IMODOCS (pre-session public release). In the absence of explicit consent, submissions will not be released to the public prior to the meeting.
