IMO’s efforts in phasing out GHG emissions from international shipping: outcomes of MEPC 78

June 2022

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MARPOL Annex VI: Defining binding regulations aimed at reducing air pollution from ships

International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)

MARPOL Annex VI on Air Pollution from Ships:

- adopted in 1997
- ratified by 103 States - 97% of world tonnage
- contains binding requirements which are enforced globally by flag States and port States
- **Chapter 3** regulates air pollution: sulphur content of bunker fuels (IMO2020) – emission control areas (ECAs), NOx emissions from engines
- **Chapter 4** regulates energy efficiency of ships (GHG emissions)
GHG reduction: Over a decade (2011-2022) of mandatory IMO energy-efficiency requirements in MARPOL Annex VI

Addressing climate change

A decade of regulatory action to cut GHG emissions from shipping: towards phasing out GHG emissions from international shipping as soon as possible in this century

See: https://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/HotTopics/Pages/Cutting-GHG-emissions.aspx
GHG reduction: Over 10-years of mandatory IMO energy-efficiency requirements in MARPOL Annex VI

**Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan (SEEMP)**

Since 2013: Each ship shall have a ship-specific SEEMP on board

**Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI)**

Since 2015: Gradually more stringent energy efficiency performance of new build ships under subsequent EEDI phases

**IMO’s Fuel Consumption Data Collection System**

Since 2019: Ships over 5,000 gt to report annual fuel consumption data to their Administration; forwarded to IMO

2020: 111 Administrations - 27,723 ships - 203 m tonnes fuels

*The growing mandatory energy efficiency framework in MARPOL Annex VI provides key building blocks for future GHG reduction measures*
Implementing the 2018 IMO Initial Strategy on Reduction of GHG emissions from international shipping

RESOLUTION A.1105(33) (as adopted on 3 March 2014)

APPROL THE 2018 IMO INITIAL STRATEGY ON REDUCTION OF GHG EMISSIONS FROM SHIPS

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Implementing the Initial IMO GHG Strategy: Promoting global action across the maritime value chain

Resolution MEPC.323(74) on Cooperation between ports and the shipping sector to reduce GHG emissions

- **Ports** are key in decarbonizing international shipping
- **IMO** promotes *worldwide cooperation between shipping and ports* through various instruments

Resolution MEPC.327(75) on National Action Plans to address GHG emissions from ships

- **National action plans** to develop policies and strategies to address GHG emissions from international shipping

Establishment of the IMO multi-donor GHG Trust Fund

- Supporting *consideration and implementation* of IMO’s GHG instruments

MARCH 17, 2022
Supporting National Action Plans for emissions reduction

The IMO-Norway GreenVoyage2050 Project has published a new guide on the development of National Action Plans (NAPs) to address GHG emissions from ships. The guide responds to...
Implementing the Initial IMO GHG Strategy: IMO’s short-term measure

Improving the energy efficiency of the global fleet

New mandatory energy efficiency requirements

- MEPC 76 (June 2021): following consideration of IMO’s first ‘comprehensive impact assessment’, adopted set of binding requirements (EEXI, CII, enhanced SEEMP and rating) to reduce carbon intensity of the world fleet
- Entry-into-force November 2022 – review/strengthening by 2026

Guidelines supporting implementation of the measure

- Following consideration by the Correspondence Group and ISWG-GHG 12, MEPC 78 adopted/approved 12 guidelines/guidance supporting implementation of the measure

Enhanced involvement of the maritime value chain in the energy efficiency performance of a ship

- IMO’s CII is valuable tool for Administrations, ports, and other stakeholders, incl. financial sector, cargo owners, to enhance their involvement and provide incentives to most energy efficient ship
The short-term IMO GHG reduction measure: enhanced involvement of the maritime value chain in a ship’s energy efficiency performance

- Continuous energy efficiency improvements of existing fleet is of key importance to **reduce the world’s fleet overall energy needs**
- The **short-time measure** provides relevant **building blocks** for future GHG reduction measures

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**Estimated contribution of selected technologies in the total amount of CO₂ reduction in shipping**

- 3.1% Waste heat recovery
- 7.5% Speed reduction
- 2.1% Steam plant improvements
- 3% Optimization of water flow around hull openings
- 1.7% Onboard wind power
- 4% Propeller maintenance
- 2.4% Propeller improvements
- 3.9% Hull maintenance
- 2.6% Hull coating
- 2.3% Air lubrication
- 64% Use of alternative/low carbon fuels

Source: Fourth IMO GHG Study 2020, calculated Marginal Abatement Cost Curves in 2050 assuming full penetration of the selected technologies.
Implementing & revising the Initial IMO GHG Strategy

Putting in place the uniform global regulatory framework aimed at phasing out GHG emissions from international shipping in line with the IMO GHG Strategy

.1 Lifecycle GHG emission guidelines

.2 Safety regulations for low-carbon marine fuels

.3 Further enhancement of the IMO Data Collection System

.4 Development of mid-term measures – including assessments of impacts on States
IMO GHG Strategy: putting in place a uniform global regulatory framework to decarbonize global shipping

1 Lifecycle GHG emission guidelines

- **LCA GHG guidelines** are essential to *incentivize investment and uptake* of marine fuels according to their ‘real’ climate impact

- **ISWG-GHG 11** (March 2022): Important progress made on development of IMO Lifecycle GHG guidelines covering *well-to-wake emission values* (incl. well-to-tank & tank-to-wake)

- **MEPC 78** agreed to establish a *Correspondence Group* (China, Japan, EC) to further develop the guidelines: discussions will focus on sustainability criteria, third-party verification/certification, continuous review of default values: *interim report* to MEPC 79 – *final report* to MEPC 80

- **MEPC 80** (July 2023) to consider final draft guidelines in view of adoption

- Regulatory application of LCA guidelines be discussed separately: *essential building block* for mid-term GHG reduction measures, notably for carbon pricing and/or a low carbon fuel standard
IMO GHG Strategy: putting in place a uniform global regulatory framework to reduce GHG emissions from ships

.2 Safety regulations for low-carbon marine fuels

- Important work underway (MSC, CCC) on development of **IMO safety guidelines** for ships using alternative fuels (fuel cell, hydrogen, ammonia)
- Safe onboard use and bunkering is key to take-up of low carbon fuels
- Enhanced **cooperation between MSC-MEPC**

.3 Further enhancement of the IMO Data Collection System (DCS)

- **IMO’s DCS** has central role in the implementation of the short-term measures and future mid-term measure, incl. possible market-based measure
- **MEPC 78** approved amendments to the IMO DCS reporting requirements for **EEXI, CII and rating values** (to be adopted by MEPC 79)
- **MEPC 78** approved a new **workstream** on **further revisions of the IMO DCS**, to be included in the agenda of ISWG-GHG
IMO GHG Strategy: putting in place a uniform global regulatory framework to reduce GHG emissions from ships

Basket of candidate mid-term GHG reduction measures

- **MEPC 76**: approved *Work plan* on the development of mid-term measures

- **ISWG-GHG 11**:  
  - made good progress with the *lessons-learned exercise of the comprehensive impact assessment* of the short-term measure  
  - Initiated a review of the Procedure for assessing impacts on States, to be finalized by MEPC 79

- **ISWG-GHG 12 and MEPC 78**: finalized consideration of the *various technical and economic proposals* for mid-term measures under Phase I of the Work plan, in particular:  
  - GHG fuel standard (GFS)  
  - Emissions cap-and-trade system  
  - International Maritime Sustainability Funding and Reward Mechanism (IMSF&R)  
  - Levy-based MBM  
  - Zero Emission Vessels (ZEVs) Incentive Scheme  
  - Other possible mechanisms (e.g. EEDI Phase IV, corridor concept,...)
IMO GHG Strategy: putting in place a uniform global regulatory framework to reduce GHG emissions from ships

- MEPC 78:
  - recognized that all proposals contain valuable elements
  - agreed on the further development of a “basket of candidate mid-term GHG reduction measures” (Phase II) integrating technical and carbon pricing elements
  - encouraged proponents of different proposals to work together on possibly combining elements of their proposals, to be further considered by ISWG-GHG 13, ahead of MEPC 79
  - timing of a future comprehensive impact assessment of a (basket of) measures in application of MEPC.1/Circ.885, as may be amended, to be further considered
Implementing the Initial IMO GHG Strategy: putting in place a uniform global regulatory framework to reduce GHG emissions from ships

Revision of the Initial IMO GHG Strategy

- Following COP 26, and in view of the urgency for all sectors to accelerate their efforts to reduce GHG emissions, IMO agreed at MEPC 77 to initiate the revision of the Initial Strategy; to strengthen the level of ambition; adopt a revised Strategy by MEPC 80

- MEPC 78 considered 13 concrete first proposals on the revision submitted by Member States and observer organizations, and reiterated its commitment

- Constructive discussions at MEPC 78 focused primarily on the levels of ambition while ensuring a fair and just transition in the revised Strategy

- Substantial support for phasing-out/zero/net-zero by 2050 and intermediate targets; substantial number of other delegations were not in a position to support such targets

- Broad support to expand on “just and equitable” transition; also addressing financial/technical support; access to/deployment of technology; port-infrastructure
Implementing the Initial IMO GHG Strategy: putting in place a uniform global regulatory framework to reduce GHG emissions from ships

Revision of the Initial IMO GHG Strategy

- **Other elements of discussion:**
  - sectoral targets/newly formulated targets (percentage of the fleet) vs. global (across-the-board) objectives
  - in-sector/out-sector financial support
  - links to UNFCCC, notably temperature goals, 2050 targets and CBDR-RC
  - Need for additional studies (alternative fuels, TRL)
  - Comprehensive vs. limited review

- **MEPC 78** agreed to:
  - invite for further submissions, containing **concrete proposals**, incl possible **text proposals**, addressing any section of the Initial Strategy
  - request the Secretariat to consider carrying out **additional studies** and organizing **information sessions/symposia**, supporting the revision process
  - encourage delegations to **work together intersessionally** on developing concrete proposals
Implementing the Initial IMO GHG Strategy: putting in place a uniform global regulatory framework to reduce GHG emissions from ships

Next steps

- **ISWG-GHG 13 (5-9 December 2022)**: main focus on (1) revision of the Strategy; (2) finalizing the review of the Procedure for Assessing Impacts on States; and (3) further consideration of a basket of mid-term candidate measures

  - **MEPC 79 (12-16 December 2022)**, incl. GHG working group

  - **ISWG-GHG 14** (dates t.b.c.)

  - **ISWG-GHG 15** (26-30 June 2023, t.b.c.)

- **MEPC 80 (3-7 July 2023, t.b.c.)**: revised Strategy to be adopted; end of Phase II of the consideration of mid-term measures
Need for concerted action to achieve GHG reduction targets for international shipping

- The **2018 IMO Initial** Strategy: change of ‘mind-set’ and GHG reduction R&D, pilots and other initiatives around the world
- IMO is on course with transposing policy objectives in the Strategy into **binding regulations**
- MARPOL Annex VI covers all trade and ship types operating worldwide, and are **enforced globally** by port and flag States
- Decarbonizing international shipping requires **joint efforts**: decision-makers in IMO require full support of entire maritime value chain
- Shipping will play a pivotal role in the **world’s energy transition** whilst ensuring **equal access to maritime transport services** for developed-developing States
- Global climate action requires **equitable and fair decision making** which leaves nobody behind; additional support to IMO’s **technical cooperation initiatives** and the **IMO GHG TC-Trust Fund**
Thank you for your attention

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