

VIII/11: Environmentally sound management of ship dismantling

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Decision VII/26,

Noting that forecasts of tonnage to be dismantled in the near future call for appropriate action from the international community, that the International Maritime Organization is developing a new legally binding instrument for the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships (hereinafter referred to as the “draft ship recycling convention”) to be adopted at the global level, ensuring an efficient and effective solution to the problem of ship dismantling and recognizing the need for interagency cooperation between the International Labour Organization, the International Maritime Organization and the Basel Convention and that duplication of regulatory instruments that have the same objective should be avoided,

1. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the International Maritime Organization in the development of the draft ship recycling convention, intended to be adopted in the 2008–2009 biennium;

2. *Invites* the International Maritime Organization to ensure that the draft ship recycling convention to be adopted by it establishes an equivalent level of control as that established under the Basel Convention, noting that the duplication of regulatory instruments that have the same objective should be avoided;

3. *Encourages* the International Maritime Organization to promote the substitution of harmful materials in the construction and maintenance of ships by less harmful or, preferably, harmless materials, without compromising the ships’ safety and operational efficiency;

4. *Invites* the International Maritime Organization to continue to have due regard to the role, competence and expertise of the Basel Convention in matters related to ship dismantling and in particular with respect to the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous wastes and other wastes;

5. *Invites* the International Maritime Organization to further consider incorporating clear responsibilities of all stakeholders in ship recycling, including ship owners, ship recycling facilities, flag States and ship recycling States, also taking into account their current capacity and the common but differentiated responsibilities and sovereign rights of the Parties;

6. *Encourages* Parties to coordinate at the national level between their International Maritime Organization and Basel Convention representatives and to participate actively in the consideration of the draft ship recycling convention;

7. *Believes* that the future draft ship recycling convention should generate conditions under which end-of-life ships are dismantled that protect workers and the environment from the adverse impacts of hazardous wastes and unsafe working practices;

8. *Stresses* that appropriate standards for the safe and environmentally sound management of ship dismantling should be applied at the earliest possible opportunity;

9. *Emphasizes* that the safe and environmentally sound management of ship dismantling remains a priority for the Parties;

10. *Underlines* the importance of continued cooperation between the International Labour Organization, the International Maritime Organization and the Basel Convention in considering matters related to ship dismantling, as appropriate, and, in particular, on the development of the new draft ship recycling convention;

11. *Calls upon* ship owners and other stakeholders to take all practical steps to ensure that end-of-life ships are dismantled in an environmentally sound manner;

12. *Invites* Parties to provide comments to the Secretariat on issues such as roles and responsibilities in the draft ship recycling convention and those relevant to the Basel Convention, including:

(a) An assessment of the level of control and enforcement established by the Basel Convention in its entirety,

(b) An assessment of the expected level of control and enforcement to be provided by the draft ship recycling convention in its entirety and its comparison with (a),

(c) Exploring and discussing the possibilities for effective short- and medium-term measures, and requests the Open-ended Working Group to address those issues;

13. *Requests* the Secretariat to forward the report of the Open-ended Working Group to the International Maritime Organization;

14. *Requests* the Secretariat to follow the development of the draft ship recycling convention and report thereon to the Open-ended Working Group and to the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting;

15. *Requests* the Secretariat, subject to the availability of the necessary resources, to continue to implement activities to promote the application of the Technical Guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Management of the Full and Partial Dismantling of Ships, having regard to the need for short- and medium-term measures to promote the environmentally sound management of ship dismantling and with a view to complementing ongoing work by the International Labour Organization and the International Maritime Organization on the issue;

16. *Requests* the Secretariat to report on activities undertaken to promote the application of the Technical Guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Management of the Full and Partial Dismantling of Ships to the Open-ended Working Group and to the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting;

17. *Calls upon* all Parties and other stakeholders in a position to do so to make financial or in-kind contributions to the implementation of activities to promote the application of the Technical Guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Management of the Full and Partial Dismantling of Ships;

18. *Requests* Parties and other stakeholders to transmit to the Secretariat relevant information that may be of assistance to stakeholders in developing measures to address, in the short and medium term, the potentially harmful consequences of ship dismantling on human health and the environment, including relevant practical information and documents on the environmentally sound management of ship recycling, pre-cleaning and decontamination, and requests the Secretariat to make information received available on the Basel Convention website.