

VII/25. Joint Working Group of the International Labour Organization, the International Maritime Organization and the Basel Convention on Ship Scrapping

The Conference of the Parties,

Welcoming the progress made to date in facilitating inter-agency cooperation at both the national and international levels on the subject of ship dismantling,

Considering especially the work of the meeting between the secretariats of the International Labour Office, the International Maritime Organization and the Basel Convention, held at Geneva on 13 and 14 January 2004 (the joint secretariat meeting),²³

Taking into account the terms of reference proposed at the joint secretariat meeting for the Joint Working Group of the International Labour Organization, the International Maritime Organization and the Basel Convention on ship scrapping (the “Joint Working Group”),

Noting that the report of the joint secretariat meeting was submitted to the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the International Maritime Organization for consideration at its fifty-first session, held from 29 March to 2 April 2004, and to the Sectoral and Technical Meetings Committee of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, at its session in February and March 2004,

Also noting that the Governing Body of the International Labour Office took note of the report of the joint secretariat meeting,

Further noting that the terms of reference for the Joint Working Group, as proposed by the joint secretariat meeting, were approved, with minor editorial amendments, by the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the International Maritime Organization at its fifty-first session,

Noting further the report of the Working Group on Ship Recycling of the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the International Maritime Organization, adopted at the Committee’s fifty-second session,

Aware of the proposal to hold the first meeting of the Joint Working Group from 15 to 17 February 2005 at the headquarters of the International Maritime Organization,

Also noting the proposed provisional agenda for the first meeting of the Joint Working Group contained in annex II to the present decision,

1. *Agrees* to the terms of reference and working arrangements of the Joint Working Group contained in annex I to the present decision;

2. *Also agrees:*

(a) That the Joint Working Group will meet on a regular basis, rotating between the headquarters of the International Labour Organization, the International Maritime Organization and the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, or any other venue agreed upon, and that the host organization will assume the role of the secretariat for the purposes of such meetings;

(b) That participation by the Basel Convention in the Joint Working Group should ensure representation of all geographical regions;

3. *Decides* to appoint the following five Parties to the Basel Convention that have been nominated by the regional groups to participate in the Joint Working Group

²³ The full report of this meeting may be found in annex I to Decision III/4 adopted by the Open-ended Working Group contained in document UNEP/CHW/OEWG/3/34.

on the understanding that representatives of other Parties, signatories, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations may participate as observers:

- (a) For the Asia and the Pacific group, China;
- (b) For the African group, the Gambia;
- (c) For the Central and Eastern European group, Russian Federation;
- (d) For the Latin America and Caribbean group, Jamaica;
- (e) For the Western Europe and others group, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

4. *Authorizes* the Open-ended Working Group to review the composition of the Basel Convention representation to the Joint Working Group, if necessary, and to appoint replacement representatives to the Joint Working Group as appropriate;

5. *Invites* the Joint Working Group to propose a practical approach that provides guidance to be considered by the three organizations to promote environmentally sound management of ship dismantling;

6. *Invites* the Joint Working Group to discuss the responsibility of flag States in the context of environmentally sound management of ship dismantling;

7. *Invites* the Joint Working Group to consider the development of a reporting system for ships destined for dismantling;

8. *Declares* that the Joint Working Group shall not be considered as taking precedence over or superseding the work of the Conference of the Parties or other activities of the Basel Convention regarding the dismantling of ships;

9. *Requests* the Secretariat to report to future meetings of the Open-ended Working Group and the Conference of the Parties on the outcome of the first and subsequent meetings of the Joint Working Group;

10. *Decides* to place this matter on the agenda for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting.

Annex I to decision VII/25 on the Joint Working Group

Terms of reference and working arrangements for the Joint Working Group

Terms of reference

The Joint Working Group should:

1. Consider the respective work programmes of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the issue of ship scrapping in order to avoid duplication of work and overlapping of responsibilities and competencies between the three organizations, and identify further needs;
2. Facilitate the exchange of views between the three organizations in order to ensure a coordinated approach to all relevant aspects of ship scrapping;
3. Undertake a comprehensive initial examination of the:
 - Technical Guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Management of the Full and Partial Dismantling of Ships, adopted by the Sixth Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Basel Convention;
 - IMO Guidelines on Ship Recycling, adopted by resolution A.962(23);

- Safety and Health in Shipbreaking: Guidelines for Asian countries and Turkey, developed by ILO, with a view to identifying any possible gaps, overlaps, or ambiguities;
4. Consider mechanisms to promote jointly the implementation of the relevant guidelines on ship scrapping;
 5. Monitor progress of any jointly organized technical cooperation activities;
 6. Submit recommendations and any other relevant information on the above or other pertinent matters to bodies of IMO, ILO and the Basel Convention, as appropriate.

Working arrangements

Group: The following should be the working arrangements of the Joint Working

1. The Joint Working Group should meet on a regular basis, rotating between the headquarters of ILO, IMO and the Basel Convention, or any other venue agreed upon. The host organization should assume the role of secretariat.
2. The Joint Working Group should consist of representatives appointed by each organization, the number to be appointed by each being decided by agreement between the three organizations. The Joint Working Group should ensure, as appropriate, representation of all geographical regions of the world with an interest in the subject matter. Other interested parties who express a wish may be allowed to participate in the discussions of the Joint Working Group.
3. The Joint Working Group shall determine its own procedures.

Annex II to decision VII/25 on the Joint Working Group

Provisional agenda for the first meeting of the Joint Working Group of the International Labour Organization, the International Maritime Organization and the Basel Convention on Ship Scrapping, to be held at IMO Headquarters, 4 Albert Embankment, London SE1, 7SR from 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 15 to Thursday, 17 February 2005

1. Opening of the session and election of the Chairman.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Consideration of the work programmes of the pertinent bodies of ILO, IMO and the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the issue of ship scrapping.
4. Examination of the relevant ILO, IMO and Basel Convention guidelines on ship scrapping.
5. Promotion of the implementation of the guidelines on ship scrapping.
6. Joint technical cooperation activities.
7. Work programme of the Joint Working Group.
8. Any other business.
9. Consideration of the report of the Joint Working Group.