Applicable to:  Shipowners, ship managers, operators, masters, crew members, recognised organisations, surveyors and the shipping community

(I) PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THE SEA (OIL) (AMENDMENT NO. 2) REGULATIONS 2016

(II) PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THE SEA (NOXIOUS LIQUID SUBSTANCES IN BULK) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2016

(III) PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THE SEA (SEWAGE) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2016

(IV) PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THE SEA (GARBAGE) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2016

(V) MERCHANT SHIPPING (SAFETY CONVENTION) (AMENDMENT NO. 2) REGULATIONS 2016

(VI) MERCHANT SHIPPING (TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND MANNING) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2016

This circular informs the shipping community on the entering into force of the above mentioned amendments to the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea Regulations and Merchant Shipping Regulations on 1 January 2017.

2. The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) and the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) had adopted amendments to MARPOL 73/78, SOLAS 74 and STCW Convention respectively. Shipping Circular No. 4 of 2015, Shipping Circular No. 21 of 2015 and Shipping Circular No. 23 of 2015 provide further information on the adopted amendments in the respective IMO resolutions.

3. The amendments to the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea Regulations give effect to Resolution MEPC.265(68) which makes the environment-related provisions of the Polar Code mandatory under MARPOL Annexes I, II, IV and V and Resolution
MEPC.266(68) which amends Regulation 12 of MARPOL Annex I relating to requirements on tanks for oil residues (sludge).

4. The amendments to the Merchant Shipping Regulations give effect to Resolution MSC.385(94) which adopts the safety-related provisions of the Polar Code and include new mandatory minimum requirements for training and qualification of personnel on ships subjected to the Polar Code. Resolution MSC.386(94) adds a new chapter XIV to SOLAS on safety measures for ships under the Polar Code.

5. The amendments to the Merchant Shipping Regulations also give effect to Resolution MSC.392(95) which makes the IGF Code mandatory and include fire safety measures under Chapter II-2 of SOLAS. In addition, Resolution MSC.396(95) and Resolution MSC.397(95) adopt amendments to the STCW Convention and the STCW Code which prescribe new mandatory minimum requirements for training and qualification of personnel on ships subjected to the IGF Code.


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7. The shipping community may also be able to access the legislations online at:

Prevention of Pollution of the Sea Regulations and Merchant Shipping Regulations.

8. Queries relating to this circular should be directed to Mr. Princet Ang (Tel: 6375 6259) or Mr. Calvin Lee (Tel: 6375 6259) or email: shipping@mpa.gov.sg.

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