



Merchant Shipping Directorate



Transport Malta

## BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN CONTINGENCY MEASURES

### *Technical Notice BWM.2*

*Notice to Shipowners, Ship Operators, Managers, Masters,  
Owners' Representatives and Recognized Organizations*

The Directorate would like to remind all concerned that the IMO's MEPC 73 session adopted Resolution MEPC.306 (73), which contains amendments to the Guidelines for the development of Ballast Water Management Plans (BWMP) (G4). The Guidelines provide for the inclusion of contingency measures into ships' BWMP as non-mandatory information.

It is also important to note that Regulation B-1.2 of the Convention states that the BWMP shall at least "*provide a detailed description of the actions to be taken to implement the BWM requirements and supplemental BWM practices as set forth in this Convention*".

In view of the above, it is recommended that the BWMP includes a new section for contingency measures (such as ballast water exchange for vessels already equipped with a D2 compliant ballast water management system (BWMS)), either as an Annex to the existing approved Plan or by inserting a new section within the existing re-approved Plan indicating the date of the revision.

For vessels still not yet equipped with a Type Approved BWMS, it is recommended that this inclusion into the BWMP should be done by the vessel's BWMS installation date (option D2), as stated in the revised B3 Regulation of the Convention.

Moreover, this Directorate would like to remind that if due to geographical and bathymetric reasons, ballast water exchange could not be carried out in line with the requirements of the Convention, reference has to be made to IMO Circular BWM.2/Circ.63.

The cooperation of all concerned is solicited.

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07 August 2019

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