



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

SHIPPING DEPUTY MINISTRY TO THE PRESIDENT

Circular No 20/2019

2.12.2019

SDM File No. 5.13.09 & 12.3.01.43

To all Recognised Organisations (ROs),

To all Registered owners, Registered bareboat charterers,
Managers and Representatives of ships flying the Cyprus Flag,

Subject: Commissioning Test of Ballast Water Management Systems Installed on Cyprus Flagged Ships

The Shipping Deputy Ministry to the President (“SDM”) wishes to inform you of the adoption of the amended text of Regulations E-1.1 and E-1.5 of the Annex to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ship’s Ballast Water and Sediments of 2004 (“BWMC”), circulated as Annex 10 of Document MEPC 74/18/Add.1. (**attached hereto**). The amended text of the Regulations above is also in line with the guidelines listed in Annex 4 of Resolution A. 1120(30).

2. Furthermore, the MEPC in the Report following its 74th Session, has endorsed the opinion, that *“commissioning testing should begin as soon as possible in accordance with BWM.2/Circ.70 (note: **also attached hereto**) and agreed to reflect this in the requisite resolution for the adoption of the relevant amendments to mandatory instruments. As an interim measure, the Committee urged Administrations to provide the recognized organizations which acted on their behalf with written and clear instructions in relation to the conduct of indicative analysis testing of BWMS at the time of their commissioning on board ships flying their flag, including what actions were to be taken in the event of this testing demonstrating non-compliance.”*

3. Following the above guidance, the SDM requests that the Ballast Water Management Systems (“BWMS”) which are planned for installation on a Cyprus flagged ship from 1/1/2020 are inspected in the scope of commissioning the BWMS in accordance with the guidance provided by BWM 2./Circ. 70. The commissioning tests will be performed as a part of the installation process, simultaneously with the installation of the system by surveyors of Recognised Organisations (“ROs”) empowered by the SDM to perform inspections on board Cyprus flagged ships. No further authorisation is needed. Exemptions for postponing of the test may be granted on a case by case basis by the SDM e.g. in cases of non-availability of a laboratory, and the request must originate from the RO.

4. An International Ballast Water Management Certificate indicating compliance to Regulation D-2 of the Annex to the BWMC **will not be issued or endorsed** until the completion of the commissioning test with satisfactory results.

5. The commissioning test is not aiming to verify the Type Approval Certificate of a BWMS. However, in case that, the attending surveyor identifies discrepancies on the components of the system or its performance related to the items inspected in the scope of the issuance of a Type Approval Certificate, the attending surveyor must consult the SDM for guidance.



6. The sampling water collecting and analysing process will be taken from an ambient environment within the system design limitations (SDL). The analysis standard accepted is an indicative analysis with direct measurement as listed in BWM.2/Circ. 42/Rev. 1. The laboratory used should be accredited with ISO standard as applicable.

7. The commissioning of the system will be considered as successful if the operational test is successful and the indicative analysis report is evidencing the performance of the system to be in conformity with the values listed in Standard D-2 of the Annex of the BWM Convention. A copy of the report should be kept on board. No reporting is needed to be submitted to this office unless requested.

8. All actions related to the commissioning test should be recorded in the Ballast Water Management Book.

9. Any clarifications or further guidance in relation to this Circular should be addressed to the Marine Environment Unit of the Flag State Directorate of the Shipping Deputy Ministry of Cyprus using the e-mail address environment@dms.gov.cy .



Costas Iacovou
Permanent Secretary
Shipping Deputy Ministry to the President

Cc. : Maritime Offices of the Shipping Deputy Ministry to the President abroad
: Cyprus Shipping Chamber
: Cyprus Union of Shipowners

JE/GS

ANNEX 10**DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE BWM CONVENTION****Regulation E-1**
Surveys

- 1 Paragraph 1.1 is replaced by the following:

".1 An initial survey before the ship is put in service or before the Certificate required under regulation E-2 or E-3 is issued for the first time. This survey shall verify that the ballast water management plan required by regulation B-1 and any associated structure, equipment, systems, fitting, arrangements and material or processes comply fully with the requirements of this Convention. This survey shall confirm that a commissioning test has been conducted to validate the installation of any ballast water management system to demonstrate that its mechanical, physical, chemical and biological processes are working properly, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.¹"

- 2 Paragraph 1.5 is replaced by the following:

".5 An additional survey, either general or partial, according to the circumstances, shall be made after a change, replacement, or significant repair of the structure, equipment, systems, fittings, arrangements and material necessary to achieve full compliance with this Convention. The survey shall be such as to ensure that any such change, replacement or significant repair has been effectively made, so that the ship complies with the requirements of this Convention. When an additional survey is undertaken for the installation of any ballast water management system, this survey shall confirm that a commissioning test has been conducted to validate the installation of the system to demonstrate that its mechanical, physical, chemical and biological processes are working properly, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.¹"

¹ Refer to the *Guidance for the commissioning testing of ballast water management systems* (BWM.2/Circ.70), as may be amended by the Organization

Appendix I

Form of the International Ballast Water Management Certificate

3 The footnote of "IMO Number" under the item of "Particulars of ship" is replaced by the following:

"IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme adopted by the Organization by resolution A.1117(30), as amended."

4 The "Details of ballast water management method(s) used" is replaced by the following:

"Details of ballast water management method(s) used
Method of ballast water management used
Date installed (if applicable)
Name of manufacturer (if applicable)"

The principal ballast water management method(s) employed on this ship is/are:

- in accordance with regulation D-1
- in accordance with regulation D-2
(describe)
- the ship is subject to regulation D-4
- other approach in accordance with regulation "

1 November 2018

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT
OF SHIPS' BALLAST WATER AND SEDIMENTS, 2004**

Guidance for the commissioning testing of ballast water management systems

1 The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), at its seventy-third session (22 to 26 October 2018), approved the *Guidance for the commissioning testing of ballast water management systems*, as set out in the annex.

2 Member Governments and international organizations are invited to bring the annexed Guidance to the attention of all parties concerned.

**ANNEX
GUIDANCE FOR THE COMMISSIONING TESTING OF BALLAST WATER
MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

Context

1 The purpose of commissioning testing is to validate the installation of a ballast water management system (BWMS) by demonstrating that its mechanical, physical, chemical and biological processes are working properly. Commissioning testing is not intended to validate the design of type approved BWMS that are approved by the Administration.

2 The following Guidance for the commissioning testing of BWMS has been developed for use by persons fitting and verifying the installation of BWMS in accordance with:

.1 regulation E1.1.1 of the Convention, which requires, inter alia, that an initial survey verify that any structure, equipment, systems, fitting, arrangements, material or processes comply fully with the requirements of the Convention;

.2 regulation E1.1.5 of the Convention which requires, inter alia, that an additional survey be made after a change, replacement, or significant repair of the structure, equipment, systems, fittings, arrangements and material necessary to achieve full compliance with the Convention;

.3 paragraph 8.2.5 of the BWMS Code, which requires that the Administration issuing the International Ballast Water Management Certificate verify that installation commissioning procedures are on board the ship in a suitable format;

.4 paragraph 8.3.6 of the BWMS Code, which requires that the installation commissioning procedures have been completed;

.5 paragraph 1.18 of [resolution MEPC.174\(58\)](#), which provides that, when a type approved ballast water management system is installed on board, an installation survey according to section 8 should be carried out; and

.6 paragraph 1.1.2.19 of annex 4 of the HSSC Guidelines ([resolution A.1120\(30\)](#)), which includes, "verifying that an operational test of the ballast water management system was

carried out based on the installation commissioning procedures and that documented evidence is provided which shows compliance of the treated discharge ballast water during the above mentioned test with regulation D2 through sampling and analysis based on applicable guidelines developed by the Organization."

3 For the purposes of this Guidance, commissioning testing refers to an operational test of the ballast water management system carried out based on the installation commissioning procedures referred to in paragraph 2.6.

Validating compliance

4 The following steps should be undertaken following installation of the BWMS on board the ship, and after all ballasting equipment (e.g. pumps and piping) has been fully installed and tested as appropriate:

.1 a sample should be collected during a ballast water uptake to characterize the ambient water, by any means practical (e.g. inline sample port or direct harbour sample). The ambient water should be accepted for testing regardless of the level of challenge it poses to the BWMS;

.2 a sample should be collected during the corresponding ballast water discharge after the full treatment has been applied. Samples should be taken in accordance with the *Guidelines on ballast water sampling (G2)*;

.3 the representative samples should be analysed for all size classes included in the D2 standard using indicative analysis methods listed in table 3 of [BWM.2/Circ.42/Rev.1](#); and

.4 the applicable self-monitoring parameters (e.g. flow rate, pressure, TRO, UV intensity, etc.) of the BWMS should also be assessed, taking into account the System Design Limitations of the BWMS, and the correct operation of all sensors and related equipment should be confirmed.

5 The validation is successful if the analysis indicates that the discharge sample does not exceed the D2 standard and the self-monitoring equipment indicates correct operation.

6 In the case that the ambient water is not appropriate for the operational testing during the commissioning of the BWMS (e.g. salinity of ambient water is outside the SDL of the BWMS), testing should be evaluated to the satisfaction of the Administration.

Documentation

7 A written report including methods and detailed results of the commissioning testing should be provided to the Administration.
