REGIONAL WORKSHOP

supporting implementation of the

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

in the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR) and El Salvador

Cartagena, Colombia, 18 to 20 October 2022
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SUMMARY SHEET

Title: Regional workshop supporting implementation of the BWM Convention in the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR) and El Salvador

Host: Maritime General Directorate of Colombia (DIMAR)

Venue and date: Hotel Caribe, Cartagena, Colombia; 18 to 20 October 2022

Type: Regional

Organized by: International Maritime Organization (IMO) and Regional Activity Center / Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Information and Training Center for the Wider Caribbean Region (RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe)

Number of participants: A total of 49 participants from 18 countries, of whom 17 were from Colombia

Participant Countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago; participants from Cuba were not able to attend due to visa restrictions for connecting flights

SUMMARY

The International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (BWM Convention), which aims at preventing the risks arising from the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens through the control and management of ships’ ballast water and sediments, entered into force on 8 September 2017. Therefore, State Parties and their Administrations must be prepared to meet the requirements and obligations of the Convention.

The regional workshop was held to support the implementation and enforcement of the BWM Convention in the WCR and El Salvador. El Salvador is included, although it is the only Central American country not bordering the Caribbean Sea, for purposes of regional harmonization. Nineteen countries were invited to participate; all were able to attend except Cuba, whose participants were unable to travel to Cartagena due to visa restrictions in countries with connecting flights.

One purpose of the workshop was to assess the progress made in the region towards the ratification, implementation, and enforcement of the Convention. The WCR countries embody a range of progress towards national implementation of the Convention: eight of the 19 countries are not Parties to the Convention at this time, and they cover the full spectrum of stages of progress towards accession (including no progress); of the 11 countries that are Parties, some are working to enact domestic legislation to enable implementation of the Convention, while others have developed compliance and enforcement programmes as a coastal State and flag
State, with pre-arrival reporting and port State control procedures. The range of progress towards ratification and implementation of the Convention presents challenges to harmonized regional enforcement.

The regional workshop took place in Cartagena, Colombia, from 18 to 20 October 2022. The meeting was facilitated by Dr. Theofanis Karayannis, Head of Marine Biosafety, Subdivision for Protective Measures, Marine Environment Division, and IMO Consultant Ms. Regina Bergner, retired invasive species subject matter expert for the United States Coast Guard (USCG). Through the support of the Singapore-IMO Third Country Training Programme (TCTP), Mr. Wang Jiangtao from the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) provided subject matter expertise and flag and port State experience in implementing and enforcing the BWM Convention. RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe supported the workshop by coordinating all the arrangements and logistics with the host country and by providing further support in facilitating the meeting, including Lieutenant Commander Lukas Rodriguez of the USCG, currently seconded to RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe, and Ms. Nadia Gour, currently seconded to RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe by Trinidad and Tobago.

The workshop was designed to provide maximum opportunities for representatives of the WCR countries to discuss their concerns and next steps, with most of the programme dedicated to targeted and open discussions following only few presentations to set the scene for the discussions. The open forum also allowed participants to share their experiences and lessons learned.

The workshop was deemed a great success by all with favourable feedback received from the participants.

**Key words:** Ballast water management, harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens, invasive aquatic species, implementation and enforcement, risk assessment, harmonized procedures

**Implementing officer:** Dr. Theofanis Karayannis, Head, Marine Biosafety, Subdivision for Protective Measures, Marine Environment Division, IMO

1 **Introduction**

This report provides details on the regional workshop supporting implementation of the BWM Convention in the WCR and El Salvador. The workshop was designed for senior Government administrators from the national authorities responsible for the prevention and control of pollution from ships; participants included representatives from maritime authorities and other competent (notably environmental) agencies. Eleven of the 19 countries involved in the workshop are Parties to the BWM Convention.

2 **Objectives**

The objective of the workshop was to assist the Administrations of the WCR in preparing for ratification and/or implementation of the BWM Convention, as appropriate, with a special emphasis on regional harmonization of practices relating to all aspects of implementation and enforcement.

The 3rd Regional Task Force Meeting on the Ratification and Implementation of the BWM Convention had been held in Panama City, Panama, from 5 to 9 June 2017. That workshop had recommended the creation of several workgroups on invasive species, port biological monitoring surveys, scientific committee, compliance monitoring and enforcement, and outreach. The current regional workshop was intended to review work accomplished since the
2017 meeting and assess future goals. In addition, this workshop provided an opportunity to exchange best practices and discuss lessons learned on implementation and enforcement of the BWM Convention in the WCR, with the goal of supporting further ratification, implementation and enforcement of the BWM Convention in the region.

The expected outcomes of the workshop were to enhance ratification, implementation and enforcement of the BWM Convention in the WCR; update priorities on the implementation of ballast water management in the region; and identify the need to review or develop regional guidelines and harmonized procedures for the BWM Convention in the WCR.

3 Venue and participants

The workshop was organized by IMO with assistance from the Maritime General Directorate of Colombia (DIMAR) and RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe. The host country arranged for accommodation and meeting facilities at Hotel Caribe in Cartagena.

A total of 19 countries were invited to participate in the meeting; 49 representatives from 18 countries attended. Both representatives from Cuba and one of the two representatives from Saint Kitts and Nevis were not able to attend. Representatives from Cuba could not attend because of visa restrictions in countries with connecting flights to Cartagena.

The representatives comprised a diverse mix of technical, legal, scientific and enforcement backgrounds and roles; about half the participants were under 40 years of age, and about half were women. Annex 1 provides a list of participants.

4 Costs

For IMO purposes only, hence, the costs are not presented.

5 Breakdown of expenditures

For IMO purposes only, hence, the details are not presented.

ACTIVITIES AND PROCEEDINGS

6 Pre-workshop assignments

To facilitate workshop dialogue, participants were requested to be prepared to discuss the status and arrangements in their country relating to the ratification/accession and/or implementation of the BWM Convention in general, with a focus on ongoing issues and challenges. This preparation helped to set the context for the opening roundtable discussion on Day 1 and, in turn, the detailed discussions on Day 2 and Day 3.

7 Opening ceremony

The meeting opened at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 18 October 2022, with the national anthem of Colombia. Captain Darío Eduardo Sanabria Gaitán, Port Captain of Cartagena, welcomed the participants to Colombia and emphasized the importance of the workshop in furthering regional coordination and cooperation; the full text of his speech (in Spanish) is provided in annex 5. Dr Karayannis welcomed the participants on behalf of IMO and facilitated introductions of the participants. Group photographs were taken to document the event (see annex 8).
8 Description of presentations and discussions

Overall, there was excellent engagement and participation from the member countries. The workshop was held with simultaneous bilingual English-Spanish interpretation; many participants were able to engage in both languages. The interpreters were proficient in scientific and technical terms, and the meeting goals were achieved without complication or delay.

The workshop was intended to follow up on the 2017 WCR meeting on the implementation of the BWM Convention. Since the 2017 meeting, the WCR countries have made some progress towards the ratification and implementation of the BWM Convention and, as such, some of the concerns and issues noted in the 2017 meeting have been addressed. The current workshop focused on sharing experiences and lessons learned since 2017, and on discussing the way forward.

Originally four of the five technical presentations were scheduled for Day 1 in order to inform the subsequent discussions; however, robust discussion following Dr. Karayannis' presentation took up most of the afternoon, and Mr. Wang's presentation was moved to Day 2. On Day 3, Colombia provided an overview of its scientific and technical work to support ballast water management actions domestically. Workshop presentations are summarized below; discussions are summarized in Annex 9.

**Presentation by LCDR Lukas Rodriguez, RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe**

*Regional context for environmental protection in the WCR and status regarding ballast water management*

LCDR Rodriguez, United States Coast Guard, provided an overview of the work conducted by RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe and the Regional Strategic Action Plan for the WCR (RSAP). LCDR Rodriguez is seconded to RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe, whose mission is to provide training and technical assistance in the region. The goal of the training and assistance is to support WCR countries in developing sustainable national and regional capabilities to implement international standards to prevent and respond to threats to the marine environment from shipping. The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment in the WCR (Cartagena Convention) also applies to environmental cooperation in the region and requires that Contracting Parties adopt measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution from ships. Parties to the Cartagena Convention include the WCR countries plus the Bahamas, the territories of France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom in the region, and the United States. LCDR Rodriguez closed the presentation by highlighting six action items from the RSAP that were identified as priorities to discuss at this workshop: (1) establish a survey, biological monitoring and risk assessment system for WCR ports; (2) adopt harmonized arrangements; (3) establish a scientific committee; (4) establish a compliance monitoring and enforcement system in the WCR; (5) enhance public awareness; and (6) set up a web-based mechanism for exchanging information.

**Presentation by DIMAR representatives, Colombia**

Libardo Rodriguez Cala, Lisseth Arregoces Silva, Luis De La Hoz Barrientos, Christian Bermudez Rivas, and Estefania Palacio Cardoso

*National context, including current advances in research on ballast water management and designation of ballast water exchange (BWE) areas*

The presentation gave an overview of Colombia’s efforts undertaken to date and the issues involved in developing a national ballast water management programme, including research and development (R&D), reporting requirements, and port State control (PSC) inspection procedures. Colombia expanded its efforts and strategy between 2015 and 2020 to prepare for ratification of the BWM Convention, for which Colombia expects to complete necessary steps in the near future. Colombia has also developed a regional approach to prioritize
inspections for ships loading coal and oil, and it has developed electronic reporting portals to facilitate compliance and PSC inspections. Finally, Colombia provided an overview of its scientific and technical progress under its relevant R&D programme.

**Presentation by Dr. Theofanis Karayannis, IMO**
*Overview of the Ballast Water Management Convention*

Dr. Karayannis provided an overview of the BWM Convention, including its provisions set out in its articles and regulations, and the respective roles of the various stakeholders such as IMO (highlighting that this means all Member States), national Administrations (in their capacities as flag, port and coastal States), classification societies, shipping companies and maritime personnel. The presentation outlined the role of ballast water as a vector for the transfer of invasive aquatic species and how the BWM Convention addresses this matter in order to minimize relevant risks posed by shipping. As the Convention is now in force for five years, ballast water management is shifting from compliance with the D-1 standard, which requires BWE, to the performance-based D-2 standard, which limits the number of organisms allowed in ballast water discharges. All ships subject to the BWM Convention must meet the D-2 standard by 8 September 2024. Other requirements of the BWM Convention were presented, including those for exceptions, exemptions and equivalent compliance; Ballast Water Management Plans and Record Books; survey and certification; port State control; and approval of ballast water management systems (BWMS). Dr. Karayannis closed the presentation with words of encouragement for the participants, reminding them that their respective Administrations constitute the IMO and urging them to engage actively with the Organization’s work.

**Presentation by Mr. Wang Jiangtao, MPA, Singapore**
*Implementation of the Ballast Water Management Convention - Singapore’s experience*

Mr. Wang provided a comprehensive overview of Singapore’s experience with the implementation and enforcement of the BWM Convention as a major flag and port State that has been very active in relevant work and deliberations. This includes PSC procedures for compliance, including notice of arrival reporting, paperwork reviews, compliance sampling and inspector training. The presentation also covered Singapore’s experience developing national legislation and authorizing Recognized Organizations to carry out survey and certification of Singapore flagged ships. In addition, Mr. Wang provided insights and experience from Singapore’s requirements for BWMS commissioning tests, its application of contingency measures, and its efforts on establishing procedures for exceptions using the Same Risk Area concept.

**Presentation by Mr. Christian Bermudez Rivas, Colombia**
*Relevant activities and work of the Centro de Investigaciones Oceanograficos y Hidrograficas del Caribe (CIOH)*

Mr. Rivas made a presentation highlighting the scientific work of CIOH. Colombia has developed a protocol to designate BWE zones for contingency measures, with criteria based on open-source oceanographic data. Data sets include key parameters such as wind patterns, wave patterns, salinity, dissolved oxygen, traffic patterns, marine protected areas, fishing areas, and chlorophyll as a measure of nutrification and productivity. Mr. Rivas also discussed Colombia’s biological monitoring programme to determine baselines and evolving conditions in its national waters. Mr. Rivas clarified that the biological sampling was not for the purposes of determining D-2 compliance. Other members of the Colombian delegation also provided additional insights and expertise on a range of aspects of CIOH’s work.
9 Site visit

There was no site visit.

OTHER ASPECTS OF THE WORKSHOP

10 Assessment and anticipated outcome

The closing discussions of the workshop indicated that the participants were pleased with the contents, scope, and delivery of the workshop. The participants indicated that they were better informed now on the BWM Convention and related guidance and stated that they are likely to use the information shared during the workshop when they return to their work. Most importantly, the participants acknowledged that the workshop enabled them to share views and establish common understandings with regard to the way forward concerning ballast water management in the region. An overview of the conclusions and recommendations of the workshop, and associated follow-up, is provided in sections 14 to 16.

11 Questionnaire

The IMO-ITCP standard evaluation questionnaire was not used for this workshop due to its unique nature, which focused on providing a forum for the region’s countries to discuss and not on the delivery of presentations. In this regard, the questionnaire’s purpose, which is to assess the performance of lecturers and the uptake of information by the participants, was not relevant and applicable on this occasion; noting also that the objective of the questionnaire and its assessment is to inform improvements for future similar activities, which is also not applicable in the case of a one-off activity such as this workshop.

12 Assessment of questionnaire

As explained above, the evaluation questionnaire was not used for this workshop.

13 Closing ceremony

Captain Sanabria Gaitán, LCDR Rodriguez and Dr. Karayannis provided closing remarks on behalf of DIMAR, RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe and IMO, respectively. They summarized the events and achievements of the workshop, expressed gratitude to the hosts for their excellent support and hospitality, and thanked the participants for their active engagement and constructive contributions during the workshop. At the end of the closing ceremony, certificates were handed over to the participants (see sample – annex 7).

14 Achievements and conclusions

The workshop achieved its objectives and, based on the feedback received, the participants were very satisfied with the insights provided and appreciative of how the workshop provided an effective platform for them to exchange views and information on the subject topics, thus facilitating their further actions at the regional level.

Discussions and dialogue took up most of the workshop. The participants showed significant interest in the discussions, and engagement was widespread. Robust discussions following Dr. Karayannis’ and Mr. Wang’s presentations required that the meeting schedule be adjusted; Mr. Wang’s presentation was moved to Day 2, and the meeting time was adjusted on the second and third days to start earlier. This demonstrated the very high level of engagement and commitment on the part of the participants.

Ms. Bergner facilitated a roundtable discussion at the end of the first day where participants shared their national progress toward ratification and implementation of the BWM Convention.
and related challenges, thus informing the detailed discussions of the following days. On the second day of the workshop, Ms. Bergner facilitated targeted discussions on (1) existing practices for ballast water management and the transition from the D-1 to the D-2 standard, (2) research and monitoring programmes and needs, (3) efforts to encourage public awareness and information exchange, and (4) open discussions summarizing the topics covered and allowing for questions as well as further discussions on other topics. On the final day of the workshop, Ms. Bergner facilitated conversations on next steps and follow-up actions. A summary of these discussions is provided in annex 9.

15 Recommendations

The most common recommendation was for those WCR countries not yet a Party to the BWM Convention to consider and prioritize actions needed to develop domestic legislation and ratify the Convention. Given the challenges to enact domestic legislation, countries of the WCR should look to their neighbours and to Parties with experience from ratifying and implementing the Convention for models and guidance, but, ultimately, each Member State must develop its own programme for legislation and compliance enforcement in accordance with its legal system.

Participants showed wide support for continuing communications among the countries of the region, and numerous participants supported engaging more frequently in relevant forums including meetings and working groups. Wide support was also expressed for taking advantage of virtual opportunities for the WCR countries to meet regularly (e.g. semi-annually or annually) to share progress and lessons learned.

Specific recommendations were developed in four main areas: (1) harmonizing regional procedures, (2) developing a scientific committee, (3) updating documents and guidance, and (4) identifying appropriate regional forums for further communications and deliberations. Other recommendations that were brought up in various discussions focused on seeking the participation and involvement of developed countries in the WCR regional deliberations, especially those countries with overseas territories in the WCR.

Harmonizing regional procedures

Participants recommended harmonizing regional procedures in three areas: reporting, PSC inspections, and contingency measures. Harmonizing procedures across the region sets clear expectations for the shipping community and provides additional legal protections for Administrations because consistent procedures are employed. The specific recommendations for harmonizing procedures are provided below.

1. Harmonize regional reporting
   - Develop a simplified and consistent electronic reporting system for WCR countries. Participants suggested facilitating electronic reporting by, for example, requiring single log in credentials for multiuse reporting to relevant authorities across the region.
   - Develop standard format and process for electronic clearance systems. Participants supported using successfully implemented modules as examples for standardizing reporting.
   - Standardize ballast water reporting data collection in machine-readable formats that allow for comparability and interoperability.

2. Harmonize PSC inspections and ship expectations across the region
   - Develop regionally supported guidance, definitions, job aids and checklists.
   - Provide PSC notification and support to WCR neighbours with contiguous waters.
   - Promote regional shipping circulars. While they do not carry force of law, they can nevertheless be enforced at the national level by the maritime authority or relevant agency.
3. **Harmonize contingency measures sub-regionally and regionally**

- Standardize the contingency measures and selection processes for ballast water exchange areas that can be used when BWE is required as a contingency measure in case of non-compliance with regulation D-2. Participants suggested that Colombia’s protocol for selecting BWE sites could be used.
- Develop individual contingency measures for each country’s circumstances in consultation with nearest neighbours.
- Develop frameworks for individual safety exceptions for each country’s circumstances; harmonize safety exceptions with neighbours, sub-regionally, and regionally.
- Develop regional facilities and capacity for sediment management including reception facilities.

**Developing a scientific committee**

Participants discussed terms of reference for developing a scientific committee to facilitate the exchange of information and data. The following terms of reference were suggested:

- Investigate funding mechanisms and cost sharing for scientific committee work.
- Inventory regional scientific and technical resources.
- Establish a mechanism and lines of communication for public/private/academic partnerships and coordinate research efforts to maximize use of limited resources.
- Establish a multidisciplinary working group that includes attorneys, engineers, biologists, inspectors and administrators.

**Updating documents and guidance**

Participants discussed updating and developing various documents, including the 2012 Regional Strategic Action Plan for the WCR. Participants expressed particular interest in harmonizing the notice of arrival and ballast water reporting forms, as well as the dissemination of a circular to announce the harmonized procedures once they are in place. Participants agreed that harmonizing the forms should begin after MEPC 79 in December 2022, where the BWM Convention’s example ballast water reporting form may be amended. Legal advisors and inspectors urged the group to harmonize PSC inspections, including consistent procedures, checklists and definitions. Participants agreed that PSC inspections administered consistently across the region would set clear expectations for the shipping community. Finally, there were suggestions to develop guidance and instructions for inspectors on the specific features and characteristics of the various types of BWMS that may use a variety of treatment methods, including disinfection by active substances, ultraviolet light treatment, filtration, distillation, and other physical and chemical process.

**Identifying appropriate regional forums**

Much discussion focused on developing regional networks for communication, noting that, in some cases, it is difficult to get the attention or support of senior Administration officials, who may only become interested when issues rise to their administrative level of communication. Participants agreed that, first and foremost, communications about ballast water management should be undertaken by the relevant maritime authorities, and WCR countries should already have these channels of communication in place. For subregional and regional coordination and cooperation, it may be necessary to raise the level of communications to involve other elements of the national Administration – for example, environmental and defence agencies and departments of state and foreign affairs.

Participants mentioned treaties and agreements that would apply to regional arrangements as well as numerous organizations and entities that should be involved in consultations for a regional approach. Some of the organizations and agreements noted during discussions
include UNEP and RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe, the Cartagena Convention, the Secretariat for the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Caribbean Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on PSC, the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, and the regional network of academic and research institutions.

Other recommendations to further regional progress

Participants made the following recommendations to encourage the involvement and technical and financial support of countries with interests in the WCR:

- Use IMO bodies (e.g. MEPC and subsidiary bodies) to provide a forum and opportunity for engaging with developed countries located in or that hold territories in the WCR. Regional coordination requires the participation of France, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States.

- Identify open-source data sets and scientific support available from developed countries located in or that hold territories in the WCR.

- Seek financial and technical support from countries with interests in the WCR to further the regional approach to ballast water management.

Finally, the benefits of IMO's higher education institutions like the World Maritime University (WMU) and the International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) were highlighted, and the region's countries were encouraged to pursue opportunities to send appropriate staff of the respective Administrations to the training courses on offer.

16 Follow-up action

Colombia suggested that regional working groups be established in the four areas noted in its national strategy: (1) research, (2) enforcement, (3) verification, and (4) legislation. Numerous participants supported the suggestion and indicated their interest in joining the working groups to both learn from and share knowledge with their neighbours. This approach could provide for the scientific committee within the research working group, using the terms of reference suggested for the scientific committee.

There was strong interest in the ongoing activity (under IMO’s Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme – ITCP) on the development of regional harmonization procedures for ballast water management in the Mediterranean Sea and on the possibility of sharing the outcome with the WCR countries as a potential reference for replication or inspiration as may be appropriate. In light of this, IMO’s Marine Environment Division is proposing a similar activity for WCR for inclusion in IMO’s 2023 ITCP. There is also ongoing consideration of a potential project, similar to IMO’s current Marine Environment Protection of the South-East Asian Seas (MEPSEAS) project, for this region subject to donor funding, which is currently being investigated by IMO’s Department for Partnerships and Projects.

As the recommendations from the workshop focus on regional mechanisms and forums that may be utilized or established to further support enhanced ballast water management in the region, this is to be followed up among the region’s countries themselves. The WCR countries should pursue regional collaboration to coordinate contingency measures and harmonize compliance and enforcement regimes. The Administrations of each country in the region should also consider organizing further national (internal) workshops or seminars involving all relevant public- and private-sector stakeholders, allowing the knowledge and information to be shared further with all stakeholders, thus enhancing the capacity within each country.

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## ANNEX 1

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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<th>NAME</th>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wayne MYKOO</td>
<td>Antigua &amp; Barbuda</td>
<td>Dept of Marine Serv. &amp; Merchant Shipping</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wmykoo@abregistry.ag">wmykoo@abregistry.ag</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eulinis THOMAS</td>
<td>Antigua &amp; Barbuda</td>
<td>Ministry of Legal Affairs</td>
<td><a href="mailto:deniscia.thomas@ab.gov.ag">deniscia.thomas@ab.gov.ag</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darlin GAITAN</td>
<td>Belize</td>
<td>Belize Port Authority</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dgaitan@portauthority.bz">dgaitan@portauthority.bz</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herman SWASO</td>
<td>Belize</td>
<td>Belize Port Authority</td>
<td><a href="mailto:commissioner@portauthority.bz">commissioner@portauthority.bz</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jose OBANDO</td>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>Min of Public Works &amp; Transportation</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jose.obando@mopt.go.cr">jose.obando@mopt.go.cr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica ORTIZ MORA</td>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>Min of Public Works &amp; Transportation</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jessica.ortiz@mopt.go.cr">jessica.ortiz@mopt.go.cr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah MARTINEZ</td>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales</td>
<td><a href="mailto:saramartinez428@gmail.com">saramartinez428@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antony DE OLEO MONTERO</td>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales</td>
<td><a href="mailto:antony.deoleo@ambiente.gob.do">antony.deoleo@ambiente.gob.do</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebeca CRUZ PEREZ</td>
<td>El Salvador</td>
<td>Autoridad Maritima Portuaria de El Salvador</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rcruez@amp.gob.sv">rcruez@amp.gob.sv</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Joseph Miranda RAMOS</td>
<td>El Salvador</td>
<td>Autoridad Maritima Portuaria de El Salvador</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hmiranda@amp.gob.sv">hmiranda@amp.gob.sv</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thandi MC ALLISTER</td>
<td>Guyana</td>
<td>Maritime Administration Department</td>
<td><a href="mailto:legal@marad.gov.gy">legal@marad.gov.gy</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frances CARRYL</td>
<td>Guyana</td>
<td>Environmental Protection Agency</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fcarryl@epaguyana.org">fcarryl@epaguyana.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getho BAZELAIS</td>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>Service Maritime et de Navigation d’Haiti (SEMANAH)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gethobazelais@gmail.com">gethobazelais@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winchel CHARLES</td>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>Service Maritime et de Navigation d’Haiti (SEMANAH)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:winchelcharles34@gmail.com">winchelcharles34@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mildred MARQUEZ</td>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>Direccion General de la Marina Mercante</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mmarquez@marinamercante.gob.hn">mmarquez@marinamercante.gob.hn</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura RIVERA</td>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>Direccion General de la Marina Mercante</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lrivera@marinamercante.gob.hn">lrivera@marinamercante.gob.hn</a></td>
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<td>Chanel RAYNOR</td>
<td>Jamaica</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:chanel.raynor@nepa.gov.jm">chanel.raynor@nepa.gov.jm</a></td>
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<td>Panama</td>
<td>Panama Maritime Authority</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Ludel HARVEY</td>
<td>St Kitts &amp; Nevis</td>
<td>St. Christopher Air &amp; Sea Port Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Christopher ALEXANDER</td>
<td>St Lucia</td>
<td>St Lucia Air and Sea Ports Authority</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Tricia CYPAL-EDWARD</td>
<td>St Lucia</td>
<td>Attorney General's Chambers</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Hyrone JOHNSON</td>
<td>St Vincent &amp; Grenadines</td>
<td>Department of Maritime Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Ronald JOSEPH</td>
<td>St Vincent &amp; Grenadines</td>
<td>Port Authority, St. Vincent &amp; the Grenadines</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Bryan RISTIE</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
<td>Maritime Authority, Suriname</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Ryan FUNG A LOI</td>
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<td>Brent WILLIAMS</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>Richmond BASANT</td>
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<td>Marco OLIER MENDOZA</td>
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<td>Pablo PEREZ ZINGG</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
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<td>Jorge CASTILLO CARVAJALINO</td>
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<td>Luis DE LA HOZ BARRIENTOS</td>
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<td>37</td>
<td>Libardo RODRIGUEZ CALA</td>
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<td>Estefania PALACIO CARDOSO</td>
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<td>Cristina CANTILLO MORENO</td>
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<td>Mayth SALAS SALAS</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>Liseth ARREGOCES SILVA</td>
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<td>42</td>
<td>Christian BERMUDEZ RIVAS</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
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<td>43</td>
<td>Raul SASTOQUE FRANCO</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
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<td>44</td>
<td>Luis PIZARRO ORTEGA</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
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<td>Dario SANABRIA GAITAN</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
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<td>46</td>
<td>Jose Andres DIAZ</td>
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<td>47</td>
<td>Natalia BURGOS URIBE</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Colombian Maritime Authority (DIMAR)</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>Camilla ALMARIO</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Colombian Maritime Authority (DIMAR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Ignacio Enrique VILLAMIL</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Colombian Maritime Authority (DIMAR)</td>
</tr>
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ANNEX 2

LIST OF LECTURERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Presentation by LCDR Lukas Rodriguez
*Regional context for environmental protection in the WCR and status regarding ballast water management*

Presentation by DIMAR representatives, Colombia
Libardo Rodriguez Cala, Lisseth Arregoces Silva, Luis De La Hoz Barrientos, Christian Bermudez Rivas, and Estefania Palacio Cardoso
*National context, including current advances in research on ballast water management and designation of ballast water exchange (BWE) areas*

Presentation by Dr. Theofanis Karayannis
*Overview of the Ballast Water Management Convention*

Presentation by Mr. Jiangtao Wang
*Implementation of the Ballast Water Management Convention - Singapore’s experience*

Presentation by Mr. Christian Bermudez Rivas, Colombia
*Relevant activities and work of the Centro de Investigaciones Oceanograficos y Hidrograficas del Caribe (CIOH)*

***
### ANNEX 3

**LIST OF ACRONYMS USED IN THE REPORT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BWE</td>
<td>Ballast water exchange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BWM</td>
<td>Ballast water management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BWMS</td>
<td>Ballast water management system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIMAR</td>
<td>Maritime General Directorate of Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMO</td>
<td>International Maritime Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOU</td>
<td>Memorandum of Understanding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPA</td>
<td>Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSC</td>
<td>Port State control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe</td>
<td>Regional Activity Center / Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Information and Training Center for the Wider Caribbean Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RO</td>
<td>Recognized organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEP</td>
<td>United Nations Environmental Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCR</td>
<td>Wider Caribbean Region</td>
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ANNEX 4

PROGRAMME

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF SHIPS’ BALLAST WATER AND SEDIMENTS, 2004

Cartagena, Colombia, 18 to 20 October 2022
**Day 01: Tuesday 18\(^{th}\) October 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Facilitator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:30 – 09:00</td>
<td><strong>Registration</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:00 – 09:45</td>
<td><strong>Opening ceremony</strong></td>
<td>Vice Admiral John Fabio Giraldo Gallo, General Maritime Director, Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Welcoming remarks by the host country and</td>
<td>LCDR Lukas Rodriguez (REMPEITC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe</td>
<td>All Participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Group Picture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:45 – 10:15</td>
<td><strong>Workshop introduction</strong></td>
<td>Dr. T. Karayannis (IMO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction of participants &amp; facilitators</td>
<td>All Participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 – 10:30</td>
<td>Tea/Coffee Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DAY 01: WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
<th>Facilitator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:30</td>
<td>1.1. RAC/REMPEITC Introduction</td>
<td>LCDR Lukas Rodriguez (REMPEITC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 – 12:30</td>
<td>1.2. Presentation from Colombia: National Context for ballast water management, Current advances in research; and Designation of ballast water exchange areas</td>
<td>Libardo Rodriguez, Lisseth Arregocés, Silva-Luis Delahoz, Christian Bermúdez Rivas and Estefanía Palacio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 – 13:00</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:30 – 14:15</td>
<td>1.3. Overview of the Ballast Water Management Convention</td>
<td>Dr. T. Karayannis (IMO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:15 – 15:00</td>
<td>1.4. Implementation of Ballast Water Management Convention – Singapore’s Experience(^1)</td>
<td>Mr. Wang Jiangtao (Singapore MPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:00 – 15:15</td>
<td>Tea/Coffee Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:15 – 16:00</td>
<td>1.5. Roundtable Discussion Status of Ballast Water Management within Member Countries (Comments from Individual members)</td>
<td>Ms. Regina Bergner (Consultant) All participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:00 – 16:30</td>
<td>1.6. Summary of Day 01 and expectations for Day 02</td>
<td>Ms. Regina Bergner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**END OF DAY 01**

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\(^1\) This presentation was delivered on Day 2 due to extensive discussions taking place following the previous presentation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 09:00 – 10:30 | **Discussion:**  
  - *Existing practices for ballast water management and compliance*  
  - *Transition from D1 to D2 Regulations*  
  Relevant RSAP Actions:  
    Action 4: Adopt harmonized arrangements for ballast water exchange in the Wider Caribbean Region  
    Action 6: Establish a Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement (CME) system in the WCR |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | **Tea/Coffee Break**                                                    |
| 11:00 – 12:30 | **Discussion: Research and Monitoring**  
  Relevant RSAP Actions:  
    Action 3: Establish a survey, biological monitoring and risk assessment system for ports in the Wider Caribbean Region  
    Action 5: Establish a Scientific Committee |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | **Lunch Break**                                                         |
| 13:30 – 14:30 | **Discussion: Public Awareness and Information Exchange**  
  Relevant RSAP Actions:  
    Action 7: Enhance public awareness on ships’ ballast water and invasive alien species issues  
    Action 8: Proposed Mechanisms for exchanging information: Use of existing platforms to encourage information exchange on BWM and Invasive Alien Species |
| 14:30 – 15:00 | **Tea/Coffee Break**                                                    |
| 15:00 – 16:00 | **Discussion (Open Session)**                                           |

**END OF DAY 02**

Facilitator: Ms. Regina Bergner/All facilitators
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 03: Thursday 20th October 2022</th>
<th>Facilitator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00 –10:15 3.1. Summary of Day 02/ <em>Open Discussions</em></td>
<td>Ms. Regina Bergner/ All facilitators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 – 10:45 3.2. Video(^2) Presentation on CIOH (Centro de Investigaciones Oceanograficas y Hidrograficas del Caribe)</td>
<td>CIOH, Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45 – 11:00 Tea/Coffee Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 12:00 3.3. Workshop Recommendations</td>
<td>Ms. Regina Bergner/ All facilitators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 – 12:30 3.4. Workshop Closure</td>
<td>Host Country LCDR Lukas Rodriguez Dr. T. Karayannis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Presentation of certificates to Participants</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Closing Remarks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 – 14:00 Lunch Break (Closing Reception)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**END OF WORKSHOP**

\(^2\) This presentation was delivered in person and not by video as originally planned.
OPENING STATEMENTS

Regional workshop on the BWM Convention
Cartagena, Colombia, 18 to 20 October 2022

PALABRAS DEL SEÑOR CAPITÁN DE NAVIO DARÍO SANABRIA, CAPITÁN DE PUERTO DE CARTAGENA, EN NOMBRE DEL SEÑOR VICEALMIRANTE JOHN FABIO GIRALDO GALLO, DIRECTOR GENERAL MARÍTIMO, CON OCASIÓN DE LA APERTURA DEL TALLER REGIONAL DE APOYO A LA IMPLEMENTACIÓN DEL CONVENIO DE GESTIÓN DEL AGUA DE LASTRE EN LA REGIÓN DEL GRAN CARIBE.

CARTAGENA OCTUBRE DE 2022.

DISTINGUIDOS DELEGADOS DE LA ORGANIZACIÓN MARÍTIMA INTERNACIONAL – OMI

DISTINGUIDOS DELEGADOS DEL CENTRO REGIONAL DE EMERGENCIA, INFORMACIÓN Y CAPACITACIÓN POR CONTAMINACIÓN MARINA - RAC/REMPEITC-CARIBE.

DISTINGUIDOS INSTRUCTORES EXPERTOS EN TEMAS DE AGUAS DE LASTRE.

DISTINGUIDOS REPRESENTANTES DE CADA UNO DE LOS PAÍSES QUE PARTICIPAN EN EL TALLER.

DAMAS, CABALLEROS, AMIGOS TODOS.

EN NOMBRE DEL SEÑOR DIRECTOR GENERAL MARÍTIMO, ME COMPLACER PRESENTAR UN ATENTO Y CORDIAL SALUDO DE BIENVENIDA A LA CIUDAD DE CARTAGENA DE INDIAS, CON MOTIVO DEL DESARROLLO DEL TALLER REGIONAL DE APOYO A LA IMPLEMENTACIÓN DEL CONVENIO DE GESTIÓN DEL AGUA DE LASTRE EN LA REGIÓN DEL GRAN CARIBE.

PARA COLOMBIA Y LA AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA NACIONAL, ES UN HONOR CONTAR CON SU PARTICIPACIÓN EN ESTA IMPORTANTE ACTIVIDAD, LIDERADA POR LA ORGANIZACIÓN MARÍTIMA INTERNACIONAL, LA UNIDAD DE COORDINACIÓN REGIONAL DEL PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE (UNEP-RAC/UCR), Y EL RAC/REMPEITC-CARIBE.

ÉSTE TALLER ES SIN LUGAR A DUDA, UN APORETE FUNDAMENTAL A LA CONSTRUCCIÓN DE HERRAMIENTAS PARA CONTRIBUIR AL FORTALECIMIENTO DE LA GESTIÓN DEL AGUA DE LASTRE EN LA REGIÓN DEL GRAN CARIBE.

ESTE ENCUENTRO ES UNA ENORME OPORTUNIDAD PARA CAPACITARNOS EN UN TEMA QUE TIENE UNA GRAN RELEVANCIA A NIVEL INTERNACIONAL, OCUPANDO GRAN PARTE DE LA AGENDA DEL COMITÉ DE PROTECCIÓN DEL MEDIO MARINO DE LA ORGANIZACIÓN MARÍTIMA INTERNACIONAL, EN DONDE SE HAN GENERADO VARIAS DIRECTRICES INTERNACIONALES PARA EVITAR LA INTRODUCCIÓN DE ORGANISMOS PATÓGENOS, Y EN TORNO AL CUAL LA COMUNIDAD INTERNACIONAL ESTÁ HACIENDO GRANDES ESFUERZOS Y COMPROMISOS PARA IMPLEMENTAR MEDIDAS QUE APORTEN A MEJORAR LA GESTIÓN DEL AGUA DE LASTRE EN LOS BUQUES DE TRÁFICO INTERNACIONAL.

ES BIEN SABIDO, QUE LA PROPAGACIÓN DE LAS ESPECIES INVASORAS QUE SE GENERA EN EL PROCESO DE INTERCAMBIO DEL AGUA DE LASTRE DE LOS BUQUES GENERA UN FUERTE IMPACTO NEGATIVO A LA BIODIVERSIDAD MARINA, QUE A SU VEZ TIENE EFECTOS ADVERSOS EN LA SALUD HUMANA, Y EN EL BIENESTAR ECONÓMICO DE LA POBLACIÓN.
ES POR ESTO QUE COLOMBIA SE HA COMPROMETIDO A ROBUSTECER LOS ESFUERZOS PARA GENERAR ESTRATEGIAS EN TORNO A LA GESTIÓN DE AGUA DE LASTRE, Y ME COMPLACE COMPARTIRLES QUE EN ESTE MOMENTO SE ENCUENTRA TRAMITANDO EN EL CONGRESO DE LA REPÚBLICA EL PROYECTO DE LEY PARA LA ADHESIÓN DE COLOMBIA AL CONVENIO INTERNACIONAL PARA EL CONTROL Y LA GESTIÓN DEL AGUA DE LASTRE Y LOS SEDIMENTOS DE LOS BUQUES. ESTOY CONVENCIDO QUE LOS RESULTADOS DE ESTE TALLER SERÁN UN GRAN APORTÉ A LA IMPLEMENTACIÓN DE Dicho CONVENIO EN NUESTRO PAÍS, Y AL FORTALECIMIENTO DE LA COOPERACIÓN ENTRE LOS PAÍSES DE LA REGIÓN PARA ELEVAR LAS ESTRATEGIAS AL MÁS ALTO NIVEL TÉCNICO.

BIENVENIDOS A COLOMBIA, BIENVENIDOS A CARTAGENA, DISFRUTEN DE ESTA CARIBEÑA CIUDAD, DESIGNADA POR LA UNESCO COMO PATRIMONIO HISTÓRICO Y CULTURAL. ESTA CIUDAD QUE ENVUELVE EL PASADO CON EL PRESENTE, LOS ACOGE CON CARIÑO Y DESEO DE BIENESTAR.

LA DIRECCIÓN GENERAL MARÍTIMA ESTÁ PRESTA A SERVIRLES EN TODO LO QUE SEA NECESARIO. NUESTRO OBJETIVO, ES GARANTIZAR QUE TODAS SUS EXPECTATIVAS, TANTO PERSONALES COMO PROFESIONALES, SEAN PLÉNAMENTE SATISFECHAS. MUCHAS GRACIAS POR PARTICIPAR Y POR VENIR A COLOMBIA, QUE DESDE HOY, SE CONVIERTE TAMBIÉN EN SU CASA.

CON ESTAS PALABRAS, Y EN NOMBRE DEL SEÑOR DIRECTOR GENERAL MARÍTIMO, ME PERMITO DECLARAR OFICIALMENTE INAUGURADO EL TALLER REGIONAL DE APOYO A LA IMPLEMENTACIÓN DEL CONVENIO DE GESTIÓN DEL AGUA DE LASTRE EN LA REGIÓN DEL GRAN CARIBE.

BIENVENIDOS!

***
ANNEX 6

EVALUATION SUMMARY

The IMO-ITCP standard evaluation questionnaire was not used for this workshop (as explained in section 11)

***
ANNEX 7
SAMPLE OF THE WORKSHOP CERTIFICATE

CERTIFICATE
This is to certify that

has participated in the
Regional Workshop Supporting Implementation of the Ballast Water Management Convention
in the Wider Caribbean Region
held in Cartagena, Colombia from 18 to 20 October 2022
jointly organized by
the International Maritime Organization
the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency, Information and Training Centre
RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe
and
Dirección General Maritima
Maritime Authority of Colombia

Carla Bikker
Director
RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe

Arsenio Domínguez
Director
Marine Environment Division
International Maritime Organization

Vicealmirante John Fabio Giraldo Gallo
Director General Maritimo
Dirección General Maritima
Maritime Authority of Colombia

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ANNEX 8

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE WORKSHOP
Lengthy discussion and question-and-answer sessions followed all the presentations. In addition, a number of discussions were included in the workshop programme to focus on specific topics. On the first day, a roundtable discussion allowed participants to share their countries’ progress toward ratification and implementation of the BWM Convention. On the second day of the workshop, Ms. Bergner facilitated discussions on (1) existing practices for ballast water management and the transition from the D-1 to the D-2 standard, (2) research and monitoring programmes and needs, (3) efforts to encourage public awareness and information exchange, and (4) open discussions summarizing the topics covered and allowing for questions as well as further discussions on other topics. On the final day of the workshop, Ms. Bergner facilitated conversations on next steps and follow-up actions. The participants were very engaged in discussions throughout the workshop. A summary of the main points of discussion is provided below.

Day 1
Dr. Karayannis’ presentation was followed by about 90 minutes of questions and discussion. Much of the discussion was focused on implementing the four-step PSC guidance outlined in the Guidelines for port State control under the BWM Convention. Other main concerns were related to obligations of the flag State and coastal State.

On Day 1, discussions focused on improving compliance assurances and harmonizing procedures and expectations across the WCR. Participants agreed to the following general provisions as a basis for compliance assessment across the region:

- The Convention applies a discharge standard. There is no preference for treatment method, and the contents of the ballast tanks are not regulated until discharged. In addition to exchange (D-1) or treatment to achieve the performance standard (D-2), other methods of compliance may include using potable water (which presumably is free of organisms), using port-based facilities or services and not discharging any ballast water.
- RO and Class certification should be documented for permanent ballast, solid ballast, sealed ballast, and no ballast on board; Class documentation should be available during inspection and verified with equipment tag.
- Inspections should include a review of the Ballast Water Record Book and compliance with ship-specific Ballast Water Management Plan.
- Ballast Water Management Plans should include contingency measures for out-of-bounds operations or ballast water management system failures. When a ship is not in compliance with the D-2 standard as would be expected with an installed BWMS, the plan should indicate how the ship can comply with the D-2 standard in another way (no discharge, for example), or should indicate the measures needed to comply with the D-1 standard if that is agreed by the port State as an acceptable contingency measure. If a ship is not in compliance with the D-1 standard and has no installed BWMS, the Ballast Water Management Plan should indicate how the ship can comply with the D-1 standard or what exceptions or exemptions apply.
- Administrations should develop compliance enforcement programmes that focus on the first two steps of the four-step approach (initial inspection; detailed inspection; sampling with indicative analysis; detailed analysis).

Day 2
After the extensive discussions following Dr. Karayannis’ presentation on Day 1, Mr. Wang’s presentation was moved to the morning of Day 2. Mr. Wang’s sharing of Singapore’s
experience as a major flag and port State provided a valuable perspective for the participants, and more than an hour of discussion ensued following the presentation. Participants asked numerous questions and sought clarification on issues related to PSC procedures, enforcement, compliance sampling and BWM reporting. Mr. Wang provided valuable insights into Singapore’s experience as a flag, coastal, and port State.

The lengthy and dynamic question and answer session following Mr. Wang’s presentation required that the focused discussions planned for the morning be moved to the afternoon. The afternoon agenda had an open discussion session planned for the end of the day, so that time was used to conduct the afternoon discussion sessions.

In the afternoon, Ms. Bergner facilitated three focused discussions on (1) existing practices for ballast water management and the transition from the D-1 to the D-2 standard, (2) research and monitoring programmes and needs, and (3) efforts to encourage public awareness and information exchange. For the series of discussion sessions on the second day of the workshop, participants were asked to consider three questions to help frame the conversations:

- What can you learn from your neighbours?
- What can you do to help your neighbours?
- What can you do to help standardize and harmonize procedures for the WCR?

Outcomes of the discussions and detailed recommendations for follow-up action are provided in sections 15 and 16 of the report.

**Day 3**

Roundtable sessions on the third day of the workshop were intended to summarize discussions and identify recommended actions for follow-up. Participants seemed eager to progress the ideas of the workshop, and discussion was lively. Ms. Bergner encouraged the WCR countries to collaborate to protect their shared environment and to be a model of neighbourly coordination for the rest of the world, while Dr. Karayannis encouraged them to engage actively in IMO’s work particularly on the review of the BWM Convention that is being initiated.

After workshop recommendations were discussed, participants intervened to express their appreciation for Colombia’s hospitality and the support of IMO and RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe. Overwhelmingly, participants expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to meet in person and develop relationships with their colleagues and neighbours, indicating that such relationships are essential for good cooperation in the region. Following discussions on Day 3, participants adjourned to the closing reception and lunch, where more informal discussions ensued.