



FIFTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Other questions**Composition of the Joint ILO-IMO-Basel Convention Working Group on Ship Scrapping**

1. At its 289th Session (March 2004), the Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues was informed of the request from the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention (COP 6, December 2002) asking the Secretariat of the Basel Convention (SBC) to explore the possibility of developing an inter-agency technical assistance project on ship scrapping together with the IMO and the ILO, and to consider the establishment of a joint working group with the IMO and the ILO as a means of achieving a common understanding of the problem and the character of the required solutions.¹ The 49th Session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) (July 2003) of the IMO had supported these proposals and requested the secretariat of the IMO to liaise with the ILO and SBC. The Governing Body took note of a first preliminary meeting between the secretariats of the three organizations in January 2004 and of the progress towards a collaborative approach to ship scrapping.²
2. Subsequently, the 51st Session of the MEPC adopted the attached terms of reference which were endorsed by the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention.³ The IMO nominated the Governments of Bangladesh, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway and the United States to participate. The Basel Convention is currently in the process of receiving nominations of a further five governments, taking account of regional distribution. The first meeting of the Joint ILO-IMO-Basel Convention Working Group is scheduled to be held at IMO in London from 15 to 17 February 2005.
3. In view of the above, and in line with standard practice for such joint working groups, the Governing Body may wish to consider nominating up to five Employer representatives and five Worker representatives at no cost to the Office.

¹ GB.289/STM/8/1.

² GB. 289/14, para. 66.

³ Report of the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, UNEP/CHW/OEWG/3/34, para. 54.

4. *The Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues may wish to recommend that the Governing Body:*

- (a) authorize the holding of the Joint ILO-IMO-Basel Convention Working Group on Ship Scrapping in London from 15 to 17 February 2005, with a composition of ten ILO (five Employer and five Worker) representatives, five Basel Convention representatives and five IMO representatives; and***
- (b) request the Director-General to communicate its decision to the Executive-Secretary of the Secretariat of the Basel Convention and to the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization.***

Geneva, 4 October 2004.

Point for decision: Paragraph 4.

Appendix

Terms of reference for the joint ILO/IMO/Basel Convention Working Group

As approved by the Marine Environment Protection Committee at its 51st Session and endorsed by the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention

The Joint ILO/IMO/Basel Convention Working Group should:

1. Consider the respective work programmes of the pertinent bodies of ILO, IMO and the Conference of Parties to the Basel Convention on the issue of ship scrapping in order to avoid duplication of work and overlapping of roles, 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 the relevant aspects of ship scrapping;
3. Undertake a comprehensive initial examination of the:
 - (a) *Technical Guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Management of the Full and Partial Dismantling of Ships*, adopted by the Conference of Parties to the Basel Convention at its sixth meeting (December 2002);
 - (b) *IMO Guidelines on Ship Recycling*, adopted by resolution A.962(23) (December 2003); and
 - (c) *Safety and health in shipbreaking: Guidelines for Asian countries and Turkey*, approved by the Governing Body of the ILO (March 2004),with a view to identifying any possible gap, overlap or ambiguities;
4. Consider mechanisms jointly to promote the implementation of the relevant Guidelines on Ship Scrapping;
5. Monitor progress of any jointly organized technical cooperation activities; and
6. Submit its reports, recommendations and any other relevant information on the above or other pertinent matters to bodies of IMO, ILO and the Basel Convention, as appropriate.