



Special Areas under MARPOL

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|--|--|------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Maritime Safety | | | | |
| Maritime Security and Piracy | In Annex I <i>Prevention of pollution by oil</i> , Annex II <i>Control of pollution by noxious liquid substances</i> , Annex IV <i>Prevention of pollution by sewage from ships</i> and Annex V <i>Prevention of pollution by garbage from ships</i> , MARPOL defines certain sea areas as "special areas" in which, for technical reasons relating to their oceanographical and ecological condition and to their sea traffic, the adoption of special mandatory methods for the prevention of sea pollution is required. Under the Convention, these special areas are provided with a higher level of protection than other areas of the sea. | | | |
| Marine Environment | Annex VI <i>Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships</i> establishes certain sulphur oxide (SO _x) Emission Control Areas with more stringent controls on sulphur emissions and nitrogen oxides (NO _x) Emission Control Areas for Tier III NO _x emission standards. | | | |
| Pollution Prevention | Special areas under MARPOL are as follows: | | | |
| Pollution Preparedness and Response | Adoption, entry into force & date of taking effect of Special Areas | | | |
| Ballast Water Management | Special Areas | Adopted # | Date of Entry into Force | In Effect From |
| Biofouling | Annex I: Oil | | | |
| Anti-fouling Systems | Mediterranean Sea | 2 Nov 1973 | 2 Oct 1983 | 2 Oct 1983 |
| Ship Recycling | Baltic Sea | 2 Nov 1973 | 2 Oct 1983 | 2 Oct 1983 |
| Port Reception Facilities | Black Sea | 2 Nov 1973 | 2 Oct 1983 | 2 Oct 1983 |
| Special Areas Under MARPOL | Red Sea | 2 Nov 1973 | 2 Oct 1983 | * |
| | "Gulfs" area | 2 Nov 1973 | 2 Oct 1983 | 1 Aug 2008 |
| | Gulf of Aden | 1 Dec 1987 | 1 Apr 1989 | * |
| | Antarctic area | 16 Nov 1990 | 17 Mar 1992 | 17 Mar 1992 |
| Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas | North West European Waters | 25 Sept 1997 | 1 Feb 1999 | 1 Aug 1999 |
| | Oman area of the Arabian Sea | 15 Oct 2004 | 1 Jan 2007 | * |
| | Southern South African waters | 13 Oct 2006 | 1 Mar 2008 | 1 Aug 2008 |
| London Convention and Protocol | Annex II: Noxious Liquid Substances | | | |
| | Antarctic area | 30 Oct 1992 | 1 Jul 1994 | 1 Jul 1994 |
| GESAMP | Annex IV: Sewage | | | |
| | Baltic Sea | 15 Jul 2011 | 1 Jan 2013 | ** |
| Special Programmes and Initiatives | Annex V: Garbage | | | |
| | Mediterranean Sea | 2 Nov 1973 | 31 Dec 1988 | 1 May 2009 |
| Legal Affairs | Baltic Sea | 2 Nov 1973 | 31 Dec 1988 | 1 Oct 1989 |
| | Black Sea | 2 Nov 1973 | 31 Dec 1988 | * |
| Human Element | Red Sea | 2 Nov 1973 | 31 Dec 1988 | * |
| | "Gulfs" area | 2 Nov 1973 | 31 Dec 1988 | * |
| Facilitation | North Sea | 17 Oct 1989 | 18 Feb 1991 | 18 Feb 1991 |
| | Antarctic area (south of latitude 60 degrees south) | 16 Nov 1990 | 17 Mar 1992 | 17 Mar 1992 |
| Member State Audit Scheme & Implementation Support | Wider Caribbean region including the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea | 4 Jul 1991 | 4 Apr 1993 | 1 May 2011 |
| | Annex VI: Prevention of air pollution by ships (Emission Control Areas) | | | |
| Technical Cooperation | Baltic Sea (SO _x) | 26 Sept 1997 | 19 May 2005 | 19 May 2006 |
| | North Sea (SO _x) | 22 Jul 2005 | 22 Nov 2006 | 22 Nov 2007 |
| Conferences | North American ECA (SO _x and PM) | 26 Mar 2010 | 1 Aug 2011 | 1 Aug 2012 |
| | Reduction of administrative burdens (NO _x) | 26 Mar 2010 | 1 Aug 2011 | *** |
| Circulars | United States Caribbean Sea ECA (SO _x and PM) | 26 Jul 2011 | 1 Jan 2013 | 1 Jan 2014 |
| | (NO _x) | 26 Jul 2011 | 1 Jan 2013 | *** |

Status of multilateral conventions and instruments in respect of which the International Maritime Organization or its Secretary-General perform depositary or other functions as at 31 December 2002.

* The Special Area requirements for these areas have not yet taken effect because of lack of notifications from MARPOL Parties whose coastlines border the relevant special areas on the existence of adequate reception facilities (regulations 38.6 of MARPOL Annex I and 5(4) of MARPOL Annex V).

** The new special area requirements, which entered into force on 1 January 2013, will only take effect upon receipt of sufficient notifications on the existence of adequate reception facilities from Parties to MARPOL Annex IV whose coastlines border the relevant special area (regulation 13.2 of the revised MARPOL Annex IV, which was adopted by resolution MEPC.200(62) and which entered into force on 1 January 2013).

*** A ship constructed on or after 1 January 2016 and is operating in these emission control areas shall comply with NO_x Tier III standards set forth in regulation 13.5 of MARPOL Annex VI.

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