

ANNEX 19**RESOLUTION MEPC.167(56)****Adopted on 13 July 2007****ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DATE ON WHICH THE AMENDMENTS TO
REGULATION 1.11 OF MARPOL ANNEX I, IN RESPECT OF THE SOUTHERN
SOUTH AFRICAN WATERS SPECIAL AREA, SHALL TAKE EFFECT**

THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE,

RECALLING Article 38 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Committee,

NOTING resolution MEPC.154(55) by which the Committee adopted amendments to regulation 1.11 of Annex I of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78), to designate the Southern South African waters as a Special Area,

NOTING ALSO the definition of the Special Area under MARPOL Annex I, i.e. a sea area where for recognized technical reasons in relation to its oceanographical and ecological condition and to the particular character of its traffic the adoption of special mandatory methods for the prevention of pollution of the sea by oil is required,

NOTING FURTHER the information provided in document MEPC 54/8, submitted by South Africa as the sole State bordering the Southern South African Waters Special Area, that adequate reception facilities are provided in all major ports within the said Special Area, in accordance with the provisions of regulation 38.4 of MARPOL Annex I,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the Committee, at its fifty-fifth session, had agreed to issue MEPC.1/Circ.543 on the Early and effective implementation of the Southern South African waters as a Special Area, pending its entry into force, whereby it requested Member Governments and industry groups to comply with the Special Area requirements immediately on a voluntary basis and, in particular, to urge oil tankers to refrain from washing their cargo tanks in the Southern South African waters, pending the entry into force of the Special Area requirements,

HAVING CONSIDERED the matter to establish the date, on which the discharge requirements of regulation 1.11 of MARPOL Annex I in respect of the Southern South African waters Special Area shall take effect,

1. DECIDES that the discharge requirements for Special Areas in regulations 15 and 34 of MARPOL Annex I for the Southern South African Waters Special Area shall take effect on 1 August 2008, with the proviso that the aforesaid amendments to regulation 1.11 of MARPOL Annex I enter into force on 1 March 2008;

2. REMINDS Member Governments and industry groups of the MEPC.1/Circ.543 which requested them to comply on a voluntary basis with the requirements immediately for the Southern South African Waters Special Area;

3. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to notify all Parties to MARPOL 73/78 of the aforementioned decision by 31 July 2007; and
4. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General to notify all Members of the Organization of the aforementioned decision.
