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Ref. T5/1.22

BWM.2/Circ.15/Add.1
2 February 2009

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

**Eighth meeting of the GESAMP* – Ballast Water Working Group established
in accordance with the Procedure for approval of ballast water management
systems that make use of Active Substances (G9)**

1 In accordance with paragraph 5 of BWM.2/Circ.15, Member Governments were invited to submit their proposals for approval of ballast water management systems that make use of Active Substances as soon as possible, but not later than 19 December 2008. By this deadline, the Secretariat had received 12 proposals for approval.

2 Based on the decision made by MEPC 58 that an additional meeting of the GESAMP-BWWG could be organized if more than three proposals for approval of ballast water management systems are received for the same session of the MEPC in accordance with an established deadline, it was decided to hold the ninth meeting of the GESAMP-BWWG from 23 to 27 March 2009 and to process the report of the Group as a matter of urgency to facilitate its consideration by MEPC 59.

3 It should be noted that the application dossiers will be reviewed in the chronological order of their submission and the GESAMP-BWWG will endeavour to review as many proposals as possible submitted before the above deadline. Recognizing that, based on previous experience, only three application dossiers can be reviewed at any one meeting and, due to the limited time between two consecutive sessions of the MEPC, a maximum of two meetings of the GESAMP-BWWG can be organized, any proposals for approval that are not reviewed in the next two meetings will be reviewed at subsequent meetings of the Group after MEPC 59 and will be reported to MEPC 60.

4 Member Governments are invited to bring this information to the attention of all concerned.

* GESAMP stands for "IMO/FAO/UNESCO-IOC/WMO/IAEA/UN/UNEP/UNIDO Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection".