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BWM.2/Circ.31/Add.2
19 December 2011

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

**Twenty-first meeting (extraordinary) 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)
to be held from 16 to 20 April 2012 at IMO Headquarters**

1 In accordance with paragraph 7 of BWM.2/Circ.31, 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 2 September 2011. By this deadline, the Secretariat had received 10 proposals for approval.

2 As agreed at MEPC 62, two meetings of the GESAMP-BWWG have been organized from 31 October to 4 November 2011 and from 12 to 16 December 2011. The reports of the two meetings mentioned above (GESAMP-BWWG 19 and GESAMP-BWWG 20) are being submitted for consideration by MEPC 63.

3 Due to the limited time between two consecutive sessions of the MEPC, the GESAMP-BWWG could only meet twice and was able to evaluate seven proposals for approval in their chronological order of submission. In accordance with paragraph 6 of BWM.2/Circ.31 and with a view to facilitating the consideration of as many ballast water management systems as possible by the MEPC, in anticipation of an increasing workload for the year 2012, the GESAMP-BWWG agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting (GESAMP-BWWG 21), scheduled from 16 to 20 April 2012, to evaluate the remaining three proposals submitted by the deadline of 2 September 2011 and to report to MEPC 64.

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/UNDP/UNEP/UNIDO Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection".