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**COMMUNICATION OF INFORMATION UNDER THE REVISED REGULATION 13G
AND NEW REGULATION 13H OF MARPOL ANNEX I**

1 The revised regulation 13G and new regulation 13H of MARPOL Annex I were adopted by resolution MEPC.111(50) on 4 December 2003 and will enter into force on 5 April 2005.

2 In accordance with paragraphs (5) and (7) of the revised regulation 13G, the Administrations are allowed, in specific cases, to extend the operating life of certain types of oil tankers beyond the phase-out dates set out in paragraph (4) of this regulation.

3 In accordance with paragraph (8)(a) of this regulation, the Administration which applies the allowances granted under paragraphs (5) or (7) is required to communicate to the Organization particulars thereof for circulation to Parties to MARPOL 73/78.

4 Paragraph (8)(b) of the revised regulation 13G, on its part, entitles a Party to the Convention to deny entry into its ports or offshore terminals of oil tankers operating under the provisions of paragraphs (5) or (7) and this information shall again be communicated to the Organization for circulation to Parties.

5 New regulation 13H provides similar entitlements for Administrations of Parties to MARPOL 73/78 in its paragraphs (5), (6) and (7), though, given the purpose of this regulation, in this case those are related to the carriage of heavy grade oil beyond the dates specified in paragraph (4). Under paragraphs (8)(a) and (b) of this regulation, the requirements for communication of information, denial of entry and circulation to Parties follow closely those set out in the corresponding paragraph in the revised regulation 13G.

4 Taking into account that both regulations are due to enter into force very soon, and with the aim of addressing any uncertainties in the oil tanker markets that might exist when both mentioned regulations take effect, Parties to MARPOL 73/78 are kindly reminded to communicate to the Organization any application of the provisions contained in paragraphs (5), (7) or (8)(b) of the revised regulation 13G, or paragraphs (5), (6), (7) or (8)(b) of new regulation 13H of MARPOL Annex I, for circulation to Parties for their information and appropriate action, if any, in accordance with relevant requirements of both regulations.