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INTERIM GUIDELINES FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE NO_x TECHNICAL CODE 2008

1 The Marine Environment Protection Committee, at its fifty-eighth session (6 to 10 October 2008), adopted, by resolution MEPC.176(58), a revised MARPOL Annex VI and by resolution MEPC.177(58), a revised Technical Code on Control of Emission of Nitrogen Oxides from Marine Diesel Engines (NO_x Technical Code 2008).

2 The purpose of the NO_x Technical Code 2008 is to provide mandatory procedures for the testing, survey and certification of marine diesel engines to ensure that they comply with the standards set forth in regulation 13 of the revised MARPOL Annex VI. These procedures will enable engine manufacturers, shipowners, and Administrations to comply with regulation 13 of the revised MARPOL Annex VI.

3 The requirements of regulation 13 of the revised MARPOL Annex VI specifically include regulations for Tier II NO_x requirements, which are to become effective in respect of ships constructed on or after 1 January 2011. Since the revised MARPOL Annex VI is set to enter into force on 1 July 2010, there is a period of only six months for Administrations to certify engines and issue Engine International Air Pollution Prevention (EIAPP) Certificates, in order to comply with regulation 13.4.

4 With a view to alleviating possible implementation difficulties posed by the six-month period between the entry-into-force date of the revised MARPOL Annex VI and the effective date for Tier II compliance, Administrations are invited to apply the procedures in the NO_x Technical Code 2008 prior to the entry-into-force date of the revised MARPOL Annex VI by using the interim guidelines as set out in the annex to this circular.

ANNEX**INTERIM GUIDELINES FOR THE APPLICATION OF
THE NO_x TECHNICAL CODE 2008**

1 Each engine, which will become subject to the provisions of regulation 13.4 of the revised MARPOL Annex VI upon its entry into force, should be certified in accordance with the requirements of the NO_x Technical Code 2008.

2 Pending entry into force of the revised MARPOL Annex VI and upon satisfactory demonstration of compliance with the NO_x Technical Code 2008 requirements, a “Statement of Compliance” with the NO_x Technical Code 2008 should be issued by the Administration or an organization acting on behalf of that Administration. Such a Statement of Compliance should contain as a minimum the information required by appendix 1 of the NO_x Technical Code 2008.

3 The Statement of Compliance is intended as an interim measure pending issuance of the Engine International Air Pollution Prevention (EIAPP) Certificates upon entry into force of the NO_x Technical Code 2008.

4 Administrations are urged to take into consideration the Statement of Compliance when issuing EIAPP Certificates in accordance with the NO_x Technical Code 2008, whether or not the Statement of Compliance was issued by the Administration, or an organization acting on behalf of that Administration, or by another Government.
