



E

4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT
LONDON SE1 7SR
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611

Circular Letter No.5216
29 May 2026

To: All IMO Members
Parties to the MARPOL Convention which are not Members of IMO

Subject: **Draft amendments to MARPOL Annex VI**

1 The Secretary-General has received proposed draft amendments to MARPOL Annex VI from Australia, Canada, South Africa and the United Kingdom, all being Parties to MARPOL Annex VI.

2 As requested by the Parties set out in paragraph 1 above, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit herewith, in accordance with article 16(2)(a) of the Convention, the text of the proposed amendments, set out in the annex, with a view to their consideration, in accordance with the provisions of article 16(2)(b), (c) and (d) of the said Convention, by the eighty-fifth session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee, tentatively scheduled to take place from 30 November to 3 December 2026 at IMO Headquarters, and/or the resumed second extraordinary session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee, tentatively scheduled to take place on 4 December 2026 at IMO Headquarters, subject to confirmation by MEPC 85, as appropriate.

ANNEX

AMENDMENTS TO MARPOL ANNEX VI

(...)

ANNEX VI

REGULATIONS FOR THE PREVENTION OF AIR POLLUTION FROM SHIPS

Regulation 2

Definitions

- 1 New paragraphs 1.34 to 1.36 are added after existing paragraph 1.33, as follows:
 - "1.34 *Calendar year* means the period from 1 January until 31 December inclusive.
 - 1.35 *Committee* means the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the Organization.
 - 1.36 *Company* means the owner of the ship or any other organization or person such as the manager, or the bareboat charterer, who has assumed the responsibility for operation of the ship from the owner of the ship and who, on assuming such responsibility, has agreed to take over all the duties and responsibilities imposed by the International Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and for Pollution Prevention."
- 2 Paragraphs 2.6 and 2.8 are deleted.
- 3 A new paragraph 3 is added after the existing paragraph 2, as follows:
 - "3 For the purpose of chapter 5:
 - .1 *Attained annual GHG fuel intensity (attained annual GFI)*, expressed in grams of CO₂eq per unit of energy (gCO₂eq/MJ), means the weighted average GHG intensity of all fuels used on board a ship in a given calendar year on a well-to-wake (WtW) basis, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization in accordance with regulation 33.
 - .2 *CO₂ equivalent (CO₂eq)* means the metric measure used to aggregate the emissions of CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O on the basis of their 100-year global-warming potential (GWP), by converting the amounts of CH₄ and N₂O to the equivalent amount of CO₂ as given in the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5).
 - .3 *Compliance deficit*, expressed in tonnes of CO₂eq, means the amount of under-compliance by a ship with the target annual GFI as determined in accordance with regulation 36.
 - .4 *Existing ship* means a ship which is not a new ship.

- .5 *Fuel* means any energy source or energy carrier used on board a ship for propulsion or for the operation of any equipment on board a ship.
- .6 *Fuel Life Cycle Label* (FLL) means the technical tool to collect and convey information relevant for the life cycle GHG intensity assessment (LCA) of a fuel, taking into account the guidelines developed by the Organization.
- .7 *GFI compliance balance*, expressed in tonnes of CO₂eq, means the measurement of a ship's GFI compliance status against the target annual GHG fuel intensity in accordance with regulation 36.
- .8 *GHG fuel intensity (GFI)*, expressed in grams of CO₂eq per unit of energy (gCO₂eq/MJ), refers to the amount of life cycle GHG emissions per unit of energy used on board a ship on a well-to-wake basis, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.¹
- .9 *Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions* means any release of carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) or nitrous oxide (N₂O) into the atmosphere.
- .10 *New ship* means a ship the delivery of which is on or after 1 January 2029.
- .11 *Remedial unit (RU)*, expressed in tonnes of CO₂eq, is a non-transferable unit acquired by means of GHG emissions pricing contributions to the IMO Net-Zero Fund, for use by the ship to balance its compliance deficit in accordance with regulation 36.
- .12 *Reward* means an annual compensation provided by the IMO Net-Zero Fund for used ZNZs in accordance with regulation 39.
- .13 *Semi-submersible vessel* is a type of ship that is designed to carry ships, marine facilities and large loads, generally installed with a high superstructure or deck room or floating tank at tow or stern, and is able to partially submerge in cargo handling.
- .14 *Ship account* means a mandatory account for a ship to which chapter 5 applies within the IMO GFI Registry in accordance with regulation 38.
- .15 *Ship account statement* means the annual ship account statement issued by the IMO GFI Registry reflecting the transactions recorded in that account in accordance with regulation 38.
- .16 *Surplus unit (SU)*, expressed in tonnes of CO₂eq, means a transferable unit that a ship in direct compliance is eligible to receive in accordance with regulation 36.

¹ Refer to the 2024 *Guidelines on life cycle GHG intensity of marine fuels* (resolution [MEPC.391\(81\)](#)), as may be amended.

- .17 *Sustainable fuel certification scheme (SFCS)* is a scheme, administered by a legal entity, which certifies that a fuel is compliant with the requirements set out in chapter 5 and its associated guidelines.
- .18 *Target annual GHG fuel intensity (target annual GFI)*, expressed in grams of CO₂eq per unit of energy (gCO₂eq/MJ), consists of the values of the two-tier target annual GFI (base target and direct compliance target) in accordance with regulation 35.
- .19 *Zero or near-zero GHG emission technologies and fuels (ZNZs)* means the type of ZNZs that qualify for the annual fuel reward in accordance with regulation 39."

Regulation 3

Exceptions and exemptions

- 4 The chapeau of paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

"2 The Administration of a Party may, in cooperation with other Administrations as appropriate, issue an exemption from specific provisions for a ship to conduct trials for the development of ship emission reduction and control technologies and engine design programmes. Such an exemption shall only be provided if the applications of specific provisions of the Annex or the NO_x Technical Code could impede research into the development of such technologies or programmes. A permit issued under this regulation shall not exempt a ship from the reporting requirement under regulation 27 and regulation 37, and shall not alter the type and scope of data required to be reported under regulation 27 and regulation 37. A permit for such an exemption shall only be provided to the minimum number of ships necessary and be subject to the following provisions:"

Regulation 5

Surveys

- 5 In paragraph 1.5, the word "workmanship" is replaced by "work quality".
- 6 In paragraph 3.2, the words "revised NO_x Technical Code 2008" are replaced by "NO_x Technical Code".
- 7 A new paragraph 5 is added after paragraph 4, as follows:
- "5 Ships to which chapter 5 applies shall also be subject to the survey specified below, taking into account the guidelines adopted by the Organization:²
- .1 An initial survey carried out before a new ship, as defined in regulation 2.3.10, is put in service and before the International Energy Efficiency Certificate is issued. The survey shall verify that the SEEMP required by regulation 26 is on board.

² Refer to the 2022 *Guidelines on survey and certification of the Energy Efficiency Design Index* (resolution MEPC.365(79), as amended by resolution MEPC.374(80), as may be further amended; and the 2022 *Guidelines on survey and certification of the attained Energy Efficiency Existing Ship Index (EEXI)* (resolution MEPC.351(78)).

- .2 For existing ships, the Administration shall ensure that the SEEMP complies with regulation 26.4. This shall be done prior to 1 January 2029. Confirmation of compliance shall be provided to, and retained on board, the ship."

8 The existing paragraphs 5 and 6 are renumbered accordingly as paragraphs 6 and 7.

Regulation 6

8 The heading of regulation 6 is replaced by the following:

"Issue or endorsement of Certificates and Statements of Compliance related to fuel oil consumption reporting, operational carbon intensity rating, and annual GHG fuel intensity"

9 A new sub-heading and new paragraphs 9 and 10 are added after existing paragraph 8, as follows:

"Statement of Compliance related to the annual GHG fuel intensity

9 Upon receipt of reported data pursuant to regulation 37 on attained annual GFI, target annual GFI and GFI compliance balance, the Administration, or any organization duly authorized by it,³ shall:

- .1 verify whether the data has been reported in accordance with regulation 37.1;
- .2 verify that the attained annual GFI was calculated in accordance with regulation 33;
- .3 verify that the target annual GFI was calculated in accordance with regulation 35;
- .4 verify that the GFI compliance balance was determined in accordance with regulation 36;
- .5 report the verified data to the IMO GFI Registry in accordance with regulation 37;
- .6 verify, upon receipt from the IMO GFI Registry of the annual ship account statement, that the ship complies with chapter 5 and has paid the annual administrative fee to the IMO GFI Registry in accordance with regulation 38;
- .7 verify for a ship eligible for rewards the total amount of GHG emissions avoided through the use of ZNZs in accordance with regulation 39; and
- .8 issue a Statement of Compliance related to annual GHG fuel intensity to the ship no later than nine months after the beginning of the calendar year, upon verification pursuant to regulations 6.9.1 to 6.9.7. In every case, the Administration assumes full responsibility for this Statement of Compliance.

³ Refer to the *Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code)* (resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65)).

10 Upon receipt of reported data pursuant to regulation 37.7, the Administration or any organization duly authorized by it⁴ shall promptly verify and determine whether the data has been reported in accordance with that regulation and, if so, issue a Statement of Compliance to the ship, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.⁵ In every case, the Administration assumes full responsibility for this Statement of Compliance."

Regulation 8

10 The heading of regulation 8 is replaced by the following:

"Form of Certificates and Statements of Compliance related to fuel oil consumption reporting, operational carbon intensity rating and annual GHG fuel intensity"

11 A new sub-heading and a new paragraph 5 are added after the existing paragraph 4, as follows:

"Statement of Compliance related to the annual GHG fuel intensity"

5 The Statement of Compliance issued pursuant to regulations 6.9 and 6.10 shall be drawn up in a form corresponding to the model given in appendix XIII and shall be at least in English, French or Spanish. If an official language of the issuing Party is also used, this shall prevail in case of a dispute or discrepancy."

Regulation 9

12 The heading of regulation 9 is replaced by the following:

"Duration and validity of Certificates and Statements of Compliance related to fuel oil consumption reporting, operational carbon intensity rating, and the annual GHG fuel intensity"

13 In paragraph 9.3, the reference to regulation 5.4 is changed to regulation 5.5.

14 A new sub-heading and a new paragraph 13 are added after the existing paragraph 12, as follows:

"Statement of Compliance related to the annual GHG fuel intensity"

13 The Statement of Compliance issued pursuant to regulation 6.9 shall be valid for the calendar year in which it is issued and for the first nine months of the following calendar year. The Statement of Compliance issued pursuant to regulation 6.10 shall be valid until the calendar year in which it is issued, for the following calendar year, and for the first nine months of the subsequent calendar year. All Statements of Compliance shall be kept on board for at least five years."

⁴ Refer to the *Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code)* (resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65)).

⁵ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

Regulation 10

Port State control on operational requirements

15 Paragraph 5 is replaced by the following:

"5 In relation to chapters 4 and 5, any port State inspection may verify, when appropriate, that there are valid Statements of Compliance related to fuel oil consumption reporting and operational carbon intensity rating and to annual GHG fuel intensity, an International Energy Efficiency Certificate and a Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan on board, in accordance with article 5 of the present Convention."

Regulation 13

Nitrogen oxides (NO_x)

16 In paragraphs 2.1.2, 7.5, 7.5.1, 8 and 9, the words "revised NO_x Technical Code 2008" are replaced by "NO_x Technical Code".

Regulation 19

Application

17 The chapeau of paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

"2 Notwithstanding paragraph 1 of this regulation, the provisions of this chapter shall not apply to:"

Regulation 26

Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan (SEEMP)

18 New paragraphs 4 and 5 are added after existing paragraph 3, as follows:

"4 In the case of a ship to which chapter 5 applies:

.1 on or before 1 January 2029, the SEEMP shall include:

.1 a description of the methodology that will be used to collect the data required by regulation 37 to calculate the ship's attained annual GFI, target annual GFI and GFI compliance balance; and

.2 the processes that will be used to report the data required by regulation 37 to the ship's Administration.

5 For ships to which paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of this regulation apply, the SEEMP shall be subject to verification taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization. In addition, for ships to which paragraph 3 applies, the SEEMP shall be subject to company audits taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.⁶

⁶ Refer to the *Guidelines for the verification and company audits by the Administration of part III of the Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan (SEEMP)* (resolution MEPC.347(78)).

New chapter 5

19 A new Chapter 5 is added after Chapter 4, as follows:

"Chapter 5 – Regulations on the IMO Net-Zero Framework

Regulation 30

Application

- 1 This chapter shall apply to all ships of 5,000 gross tonnage and above.
- 2 Notwithstanding paragraph 1 of this regulation, the provisions of this chapter shall not apply to:
 - .1 ships solely engaged in voyages within waters subject to the sovereignty or jurisdiction of the State the flag of which the ship is entitled to fly; however, each Party should ensure, by the adoption of appropriate measures, that such ships act in a manner consistent with the requirements of chapter 5, so far as is reasonable and practicable;
 - .2 ships not propelled by mechanical means, and platforms including FPSOs and FSUs and drilling rigs, regardless of their propulsion; and
 - .3 semi-submersible vessels until further review of the application of this chapter.

Regulation 31

Goal

The goal of this chapter is to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from international shipping as soon as possible, delivering on the reduction targets set out in the *2023 IMO Strategy on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships*,⁷ effectively promoting the energy transition of shipping and providing the world fleet with a needed incentive while contributing to a level playing field and a just and equitable transition.

Regulation 32

Functional requirements

In order to achieve the goal set out in regulation 31, a ship to which this chapter applies shall comply with the following functional requirements:

- .1 requirements on the continuous improvement of the ship's GHG fuel intensity in accordance with regulation 35; and
- .2 requirements on GHG emissions pricing contributions for excess emissions and on rewards for the uptake of zero or near-zero GHG emission technologies and fuels (ZNZs) in accordance with regulations 36 and 39.

⁷ Refer to the *2023 IMO Strategy on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships* (resolution MEPC.377(80)).

Regulation 33

Attained annual GHG fuel intensity (attained annual GFI)

1 After the end of calendar year 2029 and after the end of each calendar year thereafter, each ship to which this chapter applies shall calculate the attained annual GFI over a 12-month period from 1 January to 31 December for the preceding calendar year, using the data collected in accordance with regulations 27 and 37 and specified in appendix IX and appendix XII, taking into account the guidelines developed by the Organization.⁸

2 The attained annual GFI of a ship in a given year (denoted as $GFI_{attained}$) shall be calculated as follows, taking into account the guidelines developed by the Organization:⁹

$$GFI_{attained} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^J EI_j \times Energy_j}{Energy_{total}}$$

where:

$GFI_{attained}$ is the attained annual GFI of a ship in a given year;

j is the fuel type;

J is the total number of fuels used during the calendar year, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization;

EI_j , expressed in gCO₂eq/MJ, is the GHG intensity, expressed on a well-to-wake basis of a fuel type j , calculated taking into account the guidelines developed by the Organization;¹⁰

$Energy_j$, expressed in MJ, refers to the energy consumption of fuel type j by the ship in the calendar year; and

$Energy_{total}$, expressed in MJ, refers to the total amount of energy used by the ship in the calendar year, including but not limited to fuel oil, electricity delivered from shore power, and zero-emission energy sources, such as wind propulsion and solar power.

Regulation 34

Sustainable fuels certification schemes

1 The GHG intensity of a fuel shall be calculated using GHG emission factors and also taking into account all relevant metrics and indicators for each sustainability theme or aspect of a fuel as documented on the Fuel Life Cycle Label(s) (FLL).

⁸ Refer to the guidelines to be developed on the calculation of the attained annual greenhouse gas fuel intensity (GFI Calculation Guidelines).

⁹ Refer to the guidelines to be developed on the calculation of the attained annual greenhouse gas fuel intensity (GFI Calculation Guidelines).

¹⁰ Refer to the 2024 Guidelines on life cycle GHG intensity of marine fuels (resolution [MEPC.391\(81\)](#)), as may be amended.

2 GHG emission factors and sustainability themes or aspects of a fuel as documented on the FLL shall be certified, as appropriate, by a recognized Sustainable Fuels Certification Scheme (SFCS) taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.¹¹

3 The certified information in the FLL may accompany the bunker delivery note referred to in regulation 18, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.¹²

4 An SFCS shall be recognized by the Committee taking into account the recognition process(es) and criteria specified in guidelines developed by the Organization.¹³ The recognition of an SFCS shall be subject to renewal every five years and periodic review, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.¹⁴

5 No later than 1 August 2028, the Secretary-General of the Organization shall publish a list of recognized SFCSs, and shall update the list periodically thereafter.

6 Within three months after the end of calendar year 2028, and within three months after the end of each following calendar year, the Organization shall ensure that the legal entity administering the recognized SFCS reports data relevant to their activity for that calendar year or portion thereof to ensure transparency, traceability, and environmental integrity in the certification process, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.¹⁵ On the basis of the reported data, the Secretary-General of the Organization shall produce an annual report to the Committee.

Regulation 35

Target annual GHG fuel intensity (target annual GFI)

1 The target annual GFI (GFI_T) of a ship shall consist of the following two tiers:

- .1 a Base target annual GFI (base target); and
- .2 a Direct compliance target annual GFI (direct compliance target).

2 The GFI_T for each ship to which this regulation applies shall be determined/calculated as follows:

$$GFI_T = (1 - Z_T/100) \times GFI_{2008}$$

¹¹ Refer to guidelines to be developed/amend the *2024 Guidelines on life cycle GHG intensity of marine fuels* (resolution MEPC.391(81)) (LCA guidelines), as appropriate.

¹² Refer to guidelines to be developed/amend the *2024 Guidelines on life cycle GHG intensity of marine fuels* (resolution MEPC.391(81)) (LCA guidelines), as appropriate.

¹³ Refer to guidelines to be developed/amend the *2024 Guidelines on life cycle GHG intensity of marine fuels* (resolution MEPC.391(81)) (LCA guidelines), as appropriate.

¹⁴ Refer to guidelines to be developed/amend the *2024 Guidelines on life cycle GHG intensity of marine fuels* (resolution MEPC.391(81)) (LCA guidelines), as appropriate.

¹⁵ Refer to guidelines to be developed/amend the *2024 Guidelines on life cycle GHG intensity of marine fuels* (resolution MEPC.391(81)) (LCA guidelines), as appropriate.

where:

subscript T is the calendar year referred to in Table 4;

GFI₂₀₀₈ is the GFI reference value equivalent to 93.3 gCO₂eq/MJ (well-to-wake), representing the average GFI of international shipping in year 2008; and

Z_T is the annual GFI reduction factor to ensure continuous improvement of the ship's GHG fuel intensity, consisting of both an annual reduction factor for the base target and for the direct compliance target, the values of which are specified in Table 4, as compared to the GFI reference value.

Table 4 – Annual GFI reduction factors (in percentage) for the target annual GFI relative to the GFI reference value

Year _T	Z _T for Base target	Z _T for Direct compliance target
2029	6.0	19.0
2030	8.0	21.0
2031	12.4	25.4
2032	16.8	29.8
2033	21.2	34.2
2034	25.6	38.6
2035	30.0	43.0

3 By 1 January 2032, the Committee shall determine the Z-factor (Z_T) for the Base target and Direct compliance target for the years 2036 to 2040. The 2040 Z_T for the Base target shall be set at 65%.

Regulation 36

Annual GFI compliance approaches

1 At the end of each calendar year, each ship shall determine its GFI compliance balance, as follows, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization:¹⁶

$$\text{GFI compliance balance (expressed in tonnes of CO}_2\text{eq)} = (\text{Direct compliance target annual GFI} - \text{Attained annual GFI}) \times 10^{-6} \times \text{Energy}_{\text{total}}$$

2 If the GFI compliance balance is equal to or greater than zero, the ship shall be considered in direct compliance and be eligible to receive surplus units for its positive compliance balance in accordance with paragraph 11 of this regulation.

3 If the GFI compliance balance is less than zero, the ship shall determine its compliance deficit in accordance with paragraph 4 of this regulation and shall achieve compliance by balancing its deficit in accordance with the GFI compliance approaches in paragraphs 5 and/or 6, as applicable, of this regulation.

¹⁶ Refer to the guidelines to be developed on the calculation of the attained annual greenhouse gas fuel intensity (GFI Calculation Guidelines).

Assessment of the compliance deficit

4 A ship's compliance deficit comprises the quantification of emissions in excess of the tier(s) of the target annual GFI and shall be determined as follows, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization:¹⁷

- .1 for ships whose attained annual GFI is equal to or less than the base target but greater than the direct compliance target:

Tier 1 compliance deficit = (Direct compliance target annual GFI – Attained annual GFI) × 10⁻⁶ × Energy_{total}

or

- .2 for ships whose attained annual GFI is greater than the base target:

Tier 1 compliance deficit = (Direct compliance target annual GFI – Base target annual GFI) × 10⁻⁶ × Energy_{total}

and

Tier 2 compliance deficit = (Base target annual GFI – attained annual GFI) × 10⁻⁶ × Energy_{total}

Balance of the compliance deficit

5 A ship shall balance its Tier 1 compliance deficit through remedial units acquired by means of GHG emissions pricing contributions to the IMO Net-Zero Fund, priced at Tier 1 benchmark rates in accordance with paragraph 8 of this regulation, which shall be recorded on the ship account statement issued by the IMO GFI Registry in accordance with regulation 38.

6 A ship shall balance its Tier 2 compliance deficit through one or more of the following GFI compliance approaches, which shall be recorded on the ship account statement issued by the IMO GFI Registry in accordance with regulation 38.5, taking into account the guidelines developed by the Organization:¹⁸

- .1 surplus units transferred from other ships;
- .2 surplus units banked from previous calendar years; and/or
- .3 remedial units acquired by means of GHG emissions pricing contributions to the IMO Net-Zero Fund priced at Tier 2 benchmark rates in accordance with paragraph 9 of this regulation.

7 A ship that has fully balanced its compliance deficit in accordance with paragraphs 5 and/or 6 of this regulation, as applicable, shall be considered as being compliant with its target annual GFI, without prejudice to the ship to recover any costs incurred in the application of this regulation that relate to the operational responsibility of the ship. For the purpose of this regulation, operational responsibility of the ship means determining the fuel used or the cargo carried or the route or the speed of the ship.

¹⁷ Refer to the guidelines to be developed on the calculation of the attained annual greenhouse gas fuel intensity (GFI Calculation Guidelines).

¹⁸ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

Remedial Units

8 For the calendar years 2029 to 2030, the initial price of a Tier 1 remedial unit shall be US\$100 per tonne of CO₂eq on a well-to-wake basis.

9 For the calendar years 2029 to 2030, the initial price of a Tier 2 remedial unit shall be US\$380 per tonne of CO₂eq on a well-to-wake basis.

10 By 1 January 2029, the Committee shall determine the mechanism for reviewing and defining the price of a Tier 1 and Tier 2 remedial unit for the calendar years from 2031 and onwards.

Surplus Units

11 The amount of surplus units a ship in direct compliance is eligible to receive shall be equal to its positive compliance balance, expressed in tonnes of CO₂eq, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.¹⁹

12 A surplus unit, subject to paragraphs 6 and 15 of this regulation, credited to the ship account in the IMO GFI Registry may be used for the following purposes, which shall be recorded in the IMO GFI Registry, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization:²⁰

- .1 transfer to another ship to balance that ship's Tier 2 compliance deficit;
- .2 banked for use to balance the ship's Tier 2 compliance deficit or for transfer to another ship to balance that ship's Tier 2 compliance deficit, in the subsequent calendar years; or
- .3 voluntarily cancelled as a mitigation contribution.

13 A surplus unit shall only be transferred or cancelled once, but each one of a ship's surplus units may be used for any of the purposes provided for in paragraph 12 of this regulation.

14 An unassigned surplus unit shall be automatically banked.

15 A surplus unit shall have a validity of two calendar years following the calendar year of its issuance from the IMO GFI Registry. A surplus unit not used by the ship in whose account it has been credited by its expiry date shall be cancelled by the IMO GFI Registry as a mitigation contribution.

Regulation 37

Reporting and verification of the annual GFI

1 Within three months after the end of calendar year 2029 and by 31 March after each calendar year thereafter, the ship shall report to its Administration, or any organization duly authorized by it,²¹ the attained annual GFI, the target annual GFI

¹⁹ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

²⁰ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

²¹ Refer to the *Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code)* (resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65)).

and the GFI compliance balance of the ship for that calendar year or portion thereof, respectively calculated in accordance with regulations 33, 35 and 36, together with the data collected as specified in appendix XII via electronic communication and using the standardized format developed by the Organization²² for the purpose of verifying the compliance of each ship with this chapter, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.²³

2 In the event of any transfer of a ship from one Administration to another and/or a change from one company to another completed after 1 January 2029, a ship shall, after the end of the calendar year in which the transfer and/or change takes place, comply with paragraph 1 of this regulation for the 12-month period from 1 January to 31 December of the calendar year during which the transfer and/or change took place.

3 Within six months after the end of 2029 and by 30 June after each following calendar year, the Administration, or any organization duly authorized by it,²⁴ shall verify the reported data pursuant to paragraph 1 of this regulation and transfer the verified data to the IMO GFI Registry, taking into account the guidelines developed by the Organization.²⁵

4 Within one month after the ship's verified data has been transferred to the IMO GFI Registry pursuant to paragraph 3 of this regulation or on 31 July at the latest, the ship shall determine and record in the IMO GFI Registry its selected GFI compliance approach(es) in accordance with regulation 36.

5 By 31 August after each calendar year, the IMO GFI Registry shall issue, for each ship account and calendar year, a ship account statement reflecting the transactions recorded in accordance with regulation 38.4. The ship account statement shall be made available to the ship, its Administration, or any organization duly authorized by it,²⁶ taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.²⁷

6 By 30 September after each calendar year, the Administration, or any organization duly authorized by it,²⁸ shall, on the basis of the reported data and selected GFI compliance approach(es) as recorded on the ship account statement in the IMO GFI Registry issue a Statement of Compliance related to the annual GFI in accordance with regulation 6.9. The Administration, or any organization duly authorized by it,²⁹ shall submit that Statement of Compliance in the IMO GFI Registry ship account by 31 October after each calendar year.

²² Refer to the *2024 Guidelines for the development of a ship energy efficiency management plan (SEEMP)* (resolution MEPC.395(82), as amended by resolution MEPC.401(83)).

²³ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

²⁴ Refer to the *Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code)* (resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65)).

²⁵ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

²⁶ Refer to the *Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code)* (resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65)).

²⁷ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

²⁸ Refer to the *Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code)* (resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65)).

²⁹ Refer to the *Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code)* (resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65)).

7 In the event of a transfer of a ship from one Administration to another and/or a change from one company to another as referred to in paragraph 2 of this regulation, the ship shall, on the day of completion of the transfer and/or change or as close as practical thereto, report the data specified in appendix XII for the portion of the calendar year corresponding to that Administration and/or company to the losing Administration, or any organization duly authorized by it,³⁰ in the case of a transfer of Administration or to its Administration, or any organization duly authorized by it,³¹ in the case of a change of company. The Administration or any organization duly authorized by it³² shall verify the data pursuant to paragraph 1 of this regulation and issue a Statement of Compliance pursuant to regulation 6.10. Within one month following the issuance of the Statement of Compliance, the Administration shall transfer the verified data and submit that Statement of Compliance to the IMO GFI Registry, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.³³

8 From 1 January 2029, if a ship is permanently withdrawn from service during a calendar year, the ship shall report the data in paragraph 1 of this regulation for the portion of the calendar year during which the ship was operational and comply with the requirements of this chapter on the day of completion of the withdrawal or as close as practical thereto, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.³⁴

Regulation 38 *IMO GFI Registry*

Establishment

1 The Secretary-General of the Organization shall establish and administer the IMO GFI Registry to facilitate the implementation of regulations 36 and 37, taking into account the guidelines developed by the Organization.³⁵

Ship specific obligations

2 Each ship to which this chapter applies shall open by 1 October 2028 or its date of delivery, whichever is later, an account with the IMO GFI Registry and shall pay by 30 June 2029, and by 30 June of each year thereafter or its date of delivery, whichever is later, the annual administration fee to the IMO GFI Registry.

3 The Secretary-General of the Organization shall determine the annual administration fee to cover the administrative costs of the IMO GFI Registry, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.³⁶

³⁰ Refer to the *Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code)* (resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65)).

³¹ Refer to the *Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code)* (resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65)).

³² Refer to the *Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code)* (resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65)).

³³ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

³⁴ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

³⁵ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

³⁶ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

Functionalities

4 In accordance with regulation 36, the IMO GFI Registry shall in each ship account, as applicable:

- .1 credit the amount of surplus units a ship in direct compliance is eligible to receive;
- .2 record banked surplus units between calendar years;
- .3 record all transferred surplus units from one ship account to another ship account;
- .4 cancel surplus units when:
 - .1 used by a ship to balance its Tier 2 compliance deficit for a calendar year;
 - .2 voluntarily cancelled at the request of the ship; and/or
 - .3 expired; and
- .5 credit remedial units to a ship account, equal to the amount and the tier type of remedial units acquired by means of GHG emissions pricing contributions to the IMO Net-Zero Fund, and cancel the remedial unit following proof of payment.

5 By 31 August after the end of each calendar year, the IMO GFI Registry shall issue for each ship account and calendar year a ship account statement reflecting all the transactions recorded in accordance with paragraph 4 of this regulation and the GFI compliance balance.

6 The IMO GFI Registry shall record for each ship account for each calendar year the following information:

- .1 the ship account statement;
- .2 the verified attained annual GFI;
- .3 the energy consumption from each fuel j , and its GHG intensity (EI_j);
- .4 the total energy consumption;
- .5 the total energy consumption of each ZNZ;
- .6 the GHG emissions avoided by the uptake of ZNZs;
- .7 the Statement of Compliance related to the annual GHG fuel intensity; and
- .8 any other information, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.³⁷

³⁷ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

Access to the IMO GFI Registry

7 The Secretary-General of the Organization shall grant access to the Administration of a ship, or any organization duly authorized by that Administration,³⁸ to all recorded data in the ship's account in order to verify and report the ship's data in accordance with regulation 37, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.³⁹

8 The Secretary-General of the Organization shall maintain the IMO GFI Registry and grant access to users, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.⁴⁰

Reporting to the Marine Environment Protection Committee

9 On the basis of the information maintained in accordance with this regulation, the Secretary-General of the Organization shall produce an annual report to the Committee summarizing the data collected, specifying the ships with an active ship account, transaction patterns in the issuance, transferring, usage and cancellation of surplus units and remedial units, share of zero or near-zero GHG emission technologies and fuels (ZNZs) used by ships in IMO GFI Registry and other relevant information as may be requested by the Committee.

Regulation 39

Uptake of zero or near-zero GHG emission technologies and fuels (ZNZs)

1 ZNZs shall include technologies, fuels and energy sources and shall be evaluated on a well-to-wake basis, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.⁴¹ The GFI threshold for ZNZs shall be set at not greater than 19.0 gCO₂eq/MJ for an initial period until 31 December 2034, and from 1 January 2035, the threshold shall be set at not greater than 14.0 gCO₂eq/MJ, taking into account guidelines developed.⁴² Notwithstanding, the Committee may approve additional ZNZs, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.⁴³

2 Ships may receive rewards from the IMO Net-Zero Fund for the ZNZs used, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.⁴⁴

3 No later than 1 March 2027 and every five years thereafter, the Committee shall define the reward referred to in paragraph 2 of this regulation, and the methodology to determine such reward, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.⁴⁵

³⁸ Refer to the *Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code)* (resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65)).

³⁹ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

⁴⁰ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

⁴¹ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

⁴² Refer to the *2024 Guidelines on life cycle GHG intensity of marine fuels* (resolution MEPC.391(81)) and additional guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

⁴³ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

⁴⁴ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

⁴⁵ Refer to guidelines to be developed by the Organization.

4 The Organization shall monitor and publish the share of ZNZs in the total annual energy used on board by ships falling in the scope of this chapter.

Regulation 40

The IMO Net-Zero Fund

1 The Secretary-General of the Organization shall establish the IMO Net-Zero Fund to support the implementation of this chapter and achieve its goal as set out in regulation 31. Any costs associated with the operation of the IMO Net-Zero Fund and its Governing Board shall be borne by the Fund.

2 The IMO Net-Zero Fund shall receive and manage GHG emissions pricing contributions made by ships pursuant to regulation 36, and disburse collected revenue in accordance with regulation 41.

3 The Committee shall adopt the governing provisions for the IMO Net-Zero Fund and appoint a Governing Board to oversee the day-to-day operations of the Fund on its behalf in accordance with the governing provisions.

4 The governing provisions, referred to in paragraph 3 of this regulation, shall include provisions specifying which entities may be eligible to receive funds from the IMO Net-Zero Fund; the types of financing mechanisms by which funds may be disbursed; the operating procedures of the IMO Net-Zero Fund and its Governing Board; which entities and organizations the IMO Net-Zero Fund may cooperate with in the disbursement of revenue; and allocations of revenue to the different purposes set out in regulation 41 including those that promote a just and equitable transition in the context of this measure.

5 The Governing Board shall have a gender and geographically balanced composition, ensuring adequate representation of developing countries, in particular of small island developing States (SIDS) and least developed countries (LDCs).

6 The Governing Board shall produce an annual report to the Committee containing an overview of its operations, including total contributions received, commitments and disbursement of revenue for the different purposes set out in regulation 41, and other relevant information as may be requested by the Committee.

7 On the basis of the Governing Board's annual report referred to in paragraph 6 of this regulation, the Committee shall periodically review the allocation of revenue to the different purposes set out in regulation 41.

8 The Fund shall be subject to audits.

Regulation 41

Disbursement of revenue

1 The IMO Net-Zero Fund shall disburse collected revenue for the following purposes, as shall be specified in its governing provisions:

- .1 rewards for the use of ZNZs, in accordance with regulation 39;
- .2 in the context of the implementation of this chapter and, promoting a just and equitable transition in States by facilitating environmental and climate protection, adaptation and resilience building within the boundaries of the energy transition in shipping, paying particular

attention to the needs of developing countries, in particular least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS), allocating sufficient revenue, for:

- .1 researching, developing and making globally available and deploying zero and near-zero GHG emission technologies, fuels and/or energy sources, supporting the energy transition of shipping, and developing the necessary maritime, coastal and port-related infrastructure and equipment;
 - .2 enabling a just transition for seafarers and other maritime workforce;
 - .3 facilitating information-sharing, technology transfer, capacity-building, training and technical cooperation supporting the implementation of the regulations in this chapter;
 - .4 supporting the development and implementation of National Action Plans (NAPs),⁴⁶ including fleet renewal and upgrade; and
 - .5 addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately negative impacts on States, including on food security, resulting from the implementation of the regulations in this chapter;⁴⁷ and
- .3 cover the administration and operational costs of the IMO Net-Zero Fund and its Governing Board.

Regulation 42

Promotion of technical cooperation and transfer of technology relating to the continuous improvement of the ship's GHG fuel intensity

1 Administrations shall, in cooperation with the Organization and other international bodies, promote and provide support, as appropriate, directly or through the Organization to States that request technical assistance, especially developing States.

2 The Administration of a Party shall cooperate actively with other Parties, subject to its national laws, regulations and policies, to promote the development and transfer of technology and exchange of information to States which request technical assistance, particularly developing States, in respect of the implementation of measures to fulfil the requirements of chapter 5.

3 The Organization shall promote information-sharing, technology transfer, capacity-building and technical cooperation to enable the development of the necessary maritime, coastal and port-related infrastructure and equipment to support the supply of zero or near-zero GHG emission fuels and/or energy sources in developing States.

⁴⁶ Refer to resolution MEPC.367(79) on *Encouragement of Member States to develop and submit voluntary national action plans to address GHG emissions from ships*.

⁴⁷ Refer to the *2023 IMO Strategy on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships* (resolution MEPC.377(80)) and MEPC.1/Circ.885/Rev.1 on the *Revised procedure for assessing impacts on States of candidate measures*.

Regulation 43

Food security

1 The Committee shall:

- .1 address, including avoiding, remedying and mitigating, the disproportionately negative impacts of this chapter on food security, paying particular attention to countries exposed to food insecurity; and
- .2 keep the potential impacts of this chapter on food security under continuous review.

Regulation 44

Review of the chapter

1 To ensure the continued achievement of the goal of this chapter, a review shall be completed by the Organization every five years to assess the effectiveness of this chapter in achieving its goal as set out in regulation 31, on the basis of which it shall consider:

- .1 amending the annual GFI reduction factor (base target and direct compliance target) in regulation 35;
- .2 amending the threshold values for ZNZs as defined in regulation 39; and
- .3 the possible application of this chapter to ships of 400 gross tonnage and above."

20 The existing Chapter 5 is renumbered as Chapter 6 and the heading and text are replaced by the following:

"Chapter 6 – Verification of compliance with the provisions of this annex

Regulation 45

Application

Parties shall use the provisions of the Code for Implementation in the execution of their obligations and responsibilities contained in this Annex.

Regulation 46

Verification of compliance

1 Every Party shall be subject to periodic audits by the Organization in accordance with the audit standard to verify compliance with and implementation of this Annex.

2 The Secretary-General of the Organization shall have responsibility for administering the Audit Scheme, based on the guidelines developed by the Organization.⁴⁸

3 Every Party shall have responsibility for facilitating the conduct of the audit and implementation of a programme of actions to address the findings, based on the guidelines developed by the Organization.⁴⁹

4 The audits of all Parties shall be:

.1 based on an overall schedule developed by the Secretary-General of the Organization, taking into account the guidelines developed by the Organization;⁵⁰ and

.2 conducted at periodic intervals, taking into account the guidelines developed by the Organization.⁵¹"

New appendices

21 New appendices XII and XIII are added after appendix XI, as follows:

"Appendix XII

Information to be submitted on the annual GHG fuel intensity (regulations 33 and 37)

Identity of the ship

Name of the ship.....

IMO number¹.....

Port of registry.....

Company name.....

Company contact details.....

Period of calendar year for which the data is submitted:

Start date (dd/mm/yyyy)

End date (dd/mm/yyyy).....

⁴⁸ Refer to the *Framework and procedures for the IMO Member State Audit Scheme* (resolution A.1067(28)).

⁴⁹ Refer to the *Framework and procedures for the IMO Member State Audit Scheme* (resolution A.1067(28)).

⁵⁰ Refer to the *Framework and procedures for the IMO Member State Audit Scheme* (resolution A.1067(28)).

⁵¹ Refer to the *Framework and procedures for the IMO Member State Audit Scheme* (resolution A.1067(28)).

¹ In accordance with the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme (resolution A.1117(30)).

Technical characteristics of the ship

Year of delivery

Gross tonnage (GT)²

Information related to the annual GHG fuel intensity

Energy_j, energy consumption of fuel type *j* by the ship, as referred to in regulation 33 of MARPOL Annex VI, expressed in MJ, consisting of:

- Fuel oil use, by fuel type *j*³, both in metric tonnes and MJ, and where appropriate by energy converter, and methods used for collecting fuel oil consumption data, taking into account guidelines developed by the Organization.
- Energy from other energy sources, expressed in MJ, and methods used for collecting data, if applicable:
 - ☐ Total amount of energy from onshore power (kWh and MJ).....
 - ☐ Wind-assisted propulsion system
 - ☐ Photovoltaic power generation system.....
 - ☐ Other:.....

Reference of the Fuel Life Cycle Label (FLL) by fuel type used:.....

E_j, the GHG intensity, expressed on a well-to-wake basis of each fuel type used, expressed in gCO₂eq/MJ:.....

Energy_{total}, total amount of energy used by the ship, expressed in MJ.....

Attained annual GHG fuel intensity

Attained annual greenhouse gas fuel intensity (attained annual GFI), expressed in gCO₂eq/MJ.....

Target annual GHG fuel intensity

Target annual GHG fuel intensity of the ship for the calendar year, expressed in gCO₂eq/MJ:

Base target annual GFI:.....

Direct compliance target annual GFI:.....

² Gross tonnage should be calculated in accordance with the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969.

³ Refer to the 2024 Guidelines on life cycle GHG intensity of marine fuels (resolution MEPC.391(81)), as may be amended.

GFI compliance balance

GFI compliance balance, expressed in tCO₂eq:.....

For a ship in direct compliance, the amount of surplus units the ship is eligible to receive, expressed in tCO₂eq:.....

For a ship with a compliance deficit, the compliance deficit is expressed in tCO₂eq, as follows:

Tier 1 compliance deficit:.....

Tier 2 compliance deficit:.....

Amount of surplus units banked from previous calendar:.....

banked in year amount tCO₂eq valid until year

banked in year amount tCO₂eq valid until year

Information related to the uptake of zero or near-zero GHG emission technologies and fuels (ZNZs)

For the different ZNZs used:

- the total amount of GHG emissions avoided, in tCO₂eq:.....
- the total amount of energy, in MJ:.....
- the GHG intensity, in gCO₂eq/MJ:....."

Appendix XIII

Form of Statement of Compliance – Annual GHG Fuel Intensity (regulation 8.5)

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE – Annual GHG Fuel Intensity

Issued under the provisions of the Protocol of 1997 to amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL Annex VI) under the authority of the Government of:

.....
(full designation of the country)

by.....
(full designation of the competent person or organization authorized under the provisions of the Convention)

Reporting period:

from (dd/mm/yyyy) to (dd/mm/yyyy)

Particulars of ship

Name of ship.....

Distinctive number or letters

IMO number¹.....

Port of registry.....

Gross tonnage.....

THIS IS TO DECLARE THAT:

1 the ship has submitted to this Administration the data required by regulation 37 of MARPOL Annex VI, covering ship operations from (dd/mm/yyyy) to (dd/mm/yyyy);

2 the data was collected and reported to this Administration in accordance with the methodology and the processes set out in the ship's SEEMP that was in effect over the period from (dd/mm/yyyy) to (dd/mm/yyyy);

3 the attained annual GHG fuel intensity of the ship for the calendar year was
. gCO₂eq/MJ, pursuant to regulation 33 of MARPOL Annex VI ²;

4 the GHG fuel intensity compliance balance of the ship for the calendar year was . . .
. tCO₂eq, pursuant to regulation 36 of MARPOL Annex VI ²;

5 the amount of surplus units banked in the IMO GFI Registry ship account from previous calendar years, pursuant to chapter 5 of MARPOL Annex VI was ²:

.1 banked in year.....amount tCO₂eq valid until year.....

.2 banked in yearamount.... tCO₂eq valid until year.....;

6 the amount of surplus units banked in the ship's IMO GFI Registry from previous calendar years and subsequently transferred to another ship to balance that ship's Tier 2 compliance deficit, pursuant to regulation 36 of Annex VI of the Convention, was ²:

.1 transfer tCO₂eq banked in year...

.2 transfer tCO₂eq banked in year...

7 for a ship in direct compliance for the calendar years, pursuant to regulation 36 of MARPOL Annex VI ²:

.1 the amount of surplus units the ship was eligible to receive was
. . tCO₂eq;

.2 the surplus units were recorded for the following purpose(s) in the IMO GFI Registry:

☐ transfertCO₂eq surplus units to other ships;

¹ In accordance with the *IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme* (resolution A.1117(30)).

² In the event of any transfer of a ship from one Administration to another and/or a change from one company to another, these sections should be completed consistent with regulations 37.3 and 37.7 of MARPOL Annex VI.

- ☐ banktCO₂eq surplus units for use by the ship or transfer to other ships in future calendar years; and/or
- ☐ cancel..... tCO₂eq surplus units on a voluntary basis;
- .3 the final amount of surplus units banked in the IMO GFI Registry ship account was tCO₂eq;
 - .1 banked in year.....amount tCO₂eq valid until year.....
 - .2 banked in yearamount.... tCO₂eq valid until year.....
 - .3 banked in yearamount.... tCO₂eq valid until year.....
- 8 for a ship with a compliance deficit for the calendar years, pursuant to regulation 36 of MARPOL Annex VI²:
 - .1 the compliance deficit comprised:
 - ☐ Tier 1 compliance deficit:.....tCO₂eq; and
 - ☐ Tier 2 compliance deficit:.....tCO₂eq.
 - .2 the following selected GHG fuel intensity compliance approach(es) was/were recorded by the IMO GFI Register to balance the Tier 2 compliance deficit:
 - ☐ use..... surplus units (in tCO₂eq) banked;
 - ☐ obtain..... surplus units (in tCO₂eq) transferred from other ships;
 - ☐ acquire remedial units through making contributions to the IMO Net-Zero Fund:
 - ☐ Tier 2 remedial units:..... tCO₂eq.
 - .3 the following remedial units were acquired through making contributions to the IMO Net-Zero Fund:
 - ☐ Tier 1 remedial units:..... tCO₂eq.
 - .4 the final amount of surplus units banked in the IMO GFI Registry ship account was tCO₂eq;
 - .1 banked in year.....amount tCO₂eq valid until year.....
 - .2 banked in yearamount.... tCO₂eq valid until year.....;
- 9 the annual administration fee was paid to the IMO GFI Registry, pursuant to regulation 38 of MARPOL Annex VI²;

- 10 for a ship eligible to receive rewards from the IMO Net-Zero Fund, the total amount of GHGs reduced by the uptake of ZNZs was..... in tCO₂eq, pursuant to regulation 39 of MARPOL Annex VI²; and
- 11 the ship is compliant with its target annual GFI, pursuant to regulation 36 of MARPOL Annex VI².

This Statement of Compliance is valid until (dd/mm/yyyy)

Issued at
(place of issue of the Statement)

(dd/mm/yyyy)

(date of issue) (signature of duly authorized official issuing the Statement)

(seal or stamp of the authority, as appropriate)"
