

Meeting: International Maritime Organization(IMO) Marine Environment Protection Committee(MEPC) 53rd session held at IMO Headquarters, London, UK

Date: 18 to 22 July 2005 (Intersessional working group on ballast water management and working group on ships recycling were held also 11 to 15 July 2005)

Participant from NMRI

Koichi Yoshida (Principal Research Coordinator)

Kiyoshi Shibata (Leader of Environmental assessment Group)

Takeshi Naruse (Environment-harmonizing Processing group)



### Major contribution

**Shibata** made a presentation on Simple alternative NOx monitoring method. He also attended to the Air pollution working group, and contributed in development of technical guidelines for on-board exhaust gas SOx cleaning systems.

**Naruse** joined the Ship recycling working group, and provided the research results, made at NMRI, on identification and list system for harmful materials on ships, by which he contributed to further development of mandatory framework on ship recycling.

**Yoshida** joined the international seminar on green house gases (GHG) held on July 15, and presented activities in ISO (ISO/TC8/SC2 Marine Environment Protection), which is now considering possible development of ISO standard for GHG indexing. He joined the working group for air pollution, and contributed to the development of **IMO guidelines for GHG indexing**, which was approved at this MEPC53. He also attended to the working group on human element, and contributed to development of IMO strategy to address the human element, framework for IMO consideration of ergonomics and other draft circulars regarding human element.

### Main discussion

**1. Ship recycling:** MEPC developed a draft IMO Assembly resolution on new legally binding instrument on ship recycling, which will provide a future legally binding framework on ship recycling. The draft assembly resolution will give a view that such legally binding system should be developed by the end of 2007 to

be adopted in 2008 or 2009. The legally binding will cover (1) requirements on ship design, building and operation, (2) requirements on facilities at ship recycling yards and (3) enforcement mechanism, certification and communication system. Actual mandatory requirements were discussed based on the paper submitted by Japan (MEPC53/3/2), MEPC agreed, in general, that the mandatory framework should include (1) requirements to ships at their design and construction stage, (2) requirements to ships during operation, (3) requirements on preparation of ships for being recycled and (4) requirements on facilities at ship recycling yards.

**2. NOx and SOx emission control:** European countries proposed a new work item of comprehensive review of ANNEX VI for control of air pollution from ships of International Convention for Prevention of Marine Pollution (MARPOL). This review will include the further reduction of NOx and SOx emission from ships and control of particulate matter (PM). MEPC agreed the proposal and decided to start the work by BLG Sub-Committee. Member countries are invited to submit proposals of amendment to the ANNEX VI to BLG Sub-Committee. MEPC also agreed the technical guidelines for on-board exhaust gas SOx cleaning systems, but deferred the discharge condition and limitation of the washing water as a future work item.

**3. Human element:** MEPC approved following instruments (which will be formally circulated after approval by Marine Safety Committee (MSC81: May 2006):

- Checklist for considering human element issues by IMO bodies
- Strengthening of human element input to the work of IMO
- Framework for IMO consideration of ergonomics and work environment
- The Organization's strategy to address the human element