

Type of newsletter: **STATUTORY NEWSLETTER, Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009**  
Number: **07.07.2023, revision 0**

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**APPLICATION:**

Type of ships: **Ships having GT  $\geq$  500 operating internationally and to which Hong Kong Convention applies**  
Flag(s): **All flags**

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## Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009

Following ratification of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009 by Bangladesh and Liberia on 26 June 2023, the following requirements under Article 17(1) of the Convention have been met:

- .1 not less than 15 States have either signed it without reservation as to ratification, acceptance or approval, or have deposited the requisite instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession in accordance with article 16,
- .2 the combined merchant fleets of the States mentioned in paragraph 1.1 constitute not less than 40% of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping, and
- .3 the combined maximum annual ship recycling volume of the States mentioned in paragraph 1.1 during the preceding 10 years constitutes not less than 3% of the gross tonnage of the combined merchant shipping of the same States.

There are, at present, 22 Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 45.81% of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping. The combined annual ship recycling volume of the Contracting States during the preceding 10 years amounts to 23,848,453 gross tonnage, equivalent to 3.31% of the required recycling volume.

Therefore, in accordance with Article 17(1), the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009 will enter into force on **26 June 2025**, i.e. 24 months following the date on which the requirements for entry into force were met.

The Convention applies to:

- .1 Ships entitled to fly the flag of a Party of the Convention or operating under its authority.
- .2 Ship Recycling Facilities operating under the jurisdiction of a Party of the Convention.

Under the Convention, ships with GT  $\geq$  500, and contracted for construction on or after 26 June 2025, development and maintenance of Part I of the IHM will be required on delivery. For ships contracted for construction before that date, Part I of the IHM is to be developed not later than 5 years after the date of entry into force of the Convention.

It is to be noted that EU Ship Recycling Regulation (EU SRR), enhancing certain requirements of the Hong Kong Convention, has already entered into force on 30 December 2013 and it has been fully applicable since 31 December 2020. EU SSR is applicable both for EU flagged ships and for ships flying the flag of a third country calling at a port or anchorage of an EU Member State.

## ATTACHMENT:

1. IMO HKSRC.1/Circ.21 - HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND RECYCLING OF SHIPS, 2009

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HKSRC.1/Circ.21  
26 June 2023

**HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFE AND  
ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND RECYCLING OF SHIPS, 2009**

**Accession by Bangladesh and Liberia**

**Entry into force**

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to refer to the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009, and to state that with the deposit of instruments of accession by the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Republic of Liberia on 26 June 2023, the requirements for the entry into force of the Convention, as set out in article 17(1), have been fulfilled.

Article 17(1) provides the following:

"This Convention shall enter into force 24 months after the date on which the following conditions are met:

- .1 not less than 15 States have either signed it without reservation as to ratification, acceptance or approval, or have deposited the requisite instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession in accordance with article 16;
- .2 the combined merchant fleets of the States mentioned in paragraph 1.1 constitute not less than 40% of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping; and
- .3 the combined maximum annual ship recycling volume of the States mentioned in paragraph 1.1 during the preceding 10 years constitutes not less than 3% of the gross tonnage of the combined merchant shipping of the same States."

There are, at present, 22 Contracting States to the Convention, representing approximately 45.81%<sup>1</sup> of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping. The combined annual ship recycling volume of the Contracting States during the preceding 10 years amounts to 23,848,453 gross tonnage<sup>2</sup>, equivalent to 3.31% of the required recycling volume.

Therefore, in accordance with article 17(1), the Convention will enter into force on 26 June 2025, 24 months following the date on which the requirements for entry into force were met.

<sup>1</sup> Tonnage calculated as at 26 June 2023 based on world tonnage figures provided by S&P Global current as of 20 June 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Recycling data provided by S&P Global and based on the volumes recycled between 2012-2021.

The annex to this circular contains the list of the 22 Contracting States to the Convention.

The instrument of accession by Bangladesh contained the following declaration, in accordance with article 16, paragraph 6 of the Convention:

"Bangladesh declares that it requires tacit approval of the Ship Recycling Plan before a ship may be recycled in its authorized Ship Recycling Facility/Facilities."

The instrument of accession by Liberia was accompanied by the following declaration, in accordance with article 16, paragraph 6 of the Convention:

"The Government of Liberia declares that it requires explicit approval of the Ship Recycling Plan before a ship may be recycled in its authorized Ship Recycling Facility(ies)."

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**ANNEX**

**HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND RECYCLING OF SHIPS, 2009**

Done in Hong Kong, 15 May 2009

Entry into force: 26 June 2025

State	Date of deposit of instrument	Date of entry into force	% World Tonnage	Merchant Fleet (GT) 2022	Ship Recycling volume (GT)
Bangladesh	26 June 2023	26 June 2025	0.20%	3,184,415	9,888,137
Belgium	7 March 2016	26 June 2025	0.38%	5,981,943	36,441
Congo	19 May 2014	26 June 2025	0.00%	10,223	0
Croatia	16 February 2021	26 June 2025	0.07%	1,042,735	2,814
Denmark	14 June 2017	26 June 2025	1.45%	22,781,376	83,233
Estonia	25 April 2019	26 June 2025	0.02%	358,182	2,422
France	2 July 2014	26 June 2025	0.57%	8,970,361	5,486
Germany	16 July 2019	26 June 2025	0.52%	8,220,946	1,534
Ghana	18 November 2019	26 June 2025	0.00%	65,255	1,658
India	28 November 2019	26 June 2025	0.72%	11,335,480	12,210,082
Japan	27 March 2019	26 June 2025	1.99%	31,288,121	13,343
Liberia	26 June 2023	26 June 2025	15.69%	246,408,166	0
Luxembourg	29 July 2022	26 June 2025	0.08%	1,226,730	0
Malta	14 May 2019	26 June 2025	4.91%	77,154,742	342
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)*	20 February 2019	26 June 2025	0.43%	6,679,318	11,288
Norway	26 June 2013	26 June 2025	1.28%	20,129,896	17,827
Panama	19 September 2016	26 June 2025	15.63%	245,453,297	8,559
Portugal	28 March 2023	26 June 2025	1.32%	20,712,136	3,095
Sao Tome and Principe	15 August 2022	26 June 2025	0.00%	2,510	0
Serbia	22 March 2019	26 June 2025	-	-	0
Spain	3 June 2021	26 June 2025	0.18%	2,821,126	21,392
Türkiye	31 January 2019	26 June 2025	0.36%	5,715,562	1,540,800
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>45.81%</b>	<b>719,542,520**</b>	<b>23,848,453***</b>

\* Extended to Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba on 20 February 2023

\*\* 719,542,520 / 1,570,741,844 (world tonnage) = 45.81%

\*\*\* 23,848,453 / 719,542,520 = 3.31%