



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Ministry of Shipping  
Department of Shipping  
Exam section (Engineering)  
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**Number:** 18.17.0000.003.02.002.23.40

**Date:** 01/09/2024

### **Notice**

**Subject: Implementation of Hong Kong Convention (HKC) Requirements for Safe and Environmentally Sound Ship Recycling – Effective from 26 June 2025**

#### **Applicability:**

Bangladeshi Shipowners, Operators, Managers, Masters, Designers, Shipbuilders, Manufacturers, Recognized organizations and Recycling facilities.

The 2009 IMO Hong Kong Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships (HKC) will enter into force on 26 June 2025.

Its criteria for ratification have been met following Bangladesh and Liberia becoming Contracting States to the convention in June 2023. The HKC's new requirements for shipping and ship recycling facilities aim to ensure that the end-of-life recycling of ships is done safely and environmentally sound to minimize risks to human life and the environment.

#### **2.0 Key features of the HKC**

2.1 The HKC sets requirements to control and document the use of certain hazardous materials, including asbestos, ozone-depleting substances, PCBs, antifouling compounds, and systems, which are found in the ship's structure and fitted equipment.

2.2 For in-service Bangladeshi ships, this control is through the development of, and throughout operational life maintenance, a ship-specific Inventory of Hazardous Materials (IHM-Part I), which must be verified and certified by Mercantile Marine office (MMO), Chattogram or case-by-case basis authorized to RO by Department of Shipping (DoS)/MMO.

2.3 Ships at their end-of-life must have a final survey, their IHM updated to include operationally generated wastes (Part II) and items in the ship's stores (Part III) that will be present at the point of recycling and select an authorized recycling facility.

2.4 Ship recycling facilities in Bangladesh are required to be authorized by the Ship Building and Ship Recycling Board as stated in The Ship Breaking and Ship Recycling Rules 2011, have a ship recycling facility plan (SRFP) and produce ship-specific recycling plans (SRP) for each vessel they recycle, taking into account information in the completed IHM.

#### **3.0 HKC applicable ships**

The HKC will apply to ships of 500 GT and fly the flag of a party to the HKC. A ship means "a vessel of any type whatsoever operating or having operated in the marine environment and includes submersibles, floating craft, floating platforms, self-elevating platforms, Floating Storage Units (FSUs), and Floating Production Storage and Offloading Units (FPSOs), including a vessel stripped of equipment or being towed."

#### **4.0 Requirements for shipowners**

##### **4.1 Inventory of Hazardous Materials**

**New ships-**From 26 June 2025, all Bangladesh new ships<sup>1</sup> will be required to be delivered with an approved Inventory of Hazardous Materials (IHM) (Part I only) and International Certificate on Inventory of Hazardous Materials (IC) issued by the Mercantile Marine office, Chattogram. Authorization to the recognized organizations will be given by

DoS/MMO on case to case basis.

During the build, the IHM Part I should be compiled based on Material Declarations collected from the supply chain by the shipbuilder, following the guidance set out in the recently updated (Expected) MEPC.379(80) - 2023 Guidelines for the Development of the Inventory of Hazardous Materials, which supersedes MEPC.269(68).

**4.2 Existing ships**-No later than 25 June 2030 (or before going for recycling if this is earlier), all Bangladesh existing ships will be required to have an approved IHM (Part I only), developed following the guidelines mentioned above, and hold on board an International Certificate on Inventory of Hazardous Materials (IC) issued by the MMO, Chattogram or case to case basis where authorized by the DoS/MMO this can be issued by RO.

When developing the IHM Part I, in the absence of a complete Material Declaration paper trail from build to ascertain the presence or absence of hazardous materials on board, a shipowner may need to undertake sampling and analysis for hazardous materials before the IHM can be completed. It's recommended that this is completed at the same time as the renewal of the Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate, Cargo Ship Safety Certificate, or Passenger Ship Safety Certificate.

#### **4.3 Final Survey**

From 26 June 2025, ships going for recycling must have a valid Ready for Recycling Certificate (RfRC) issued by the Mercantile Marine Office, Chattogram. However, this can be issued by RO case-to-case basis where authorized by the DoS/MMO. RfRC will be valid for no longer than three months. An RfRC to be issued based on a review of the completed IHM (Parts I, II & III), verification that an authorized ship recycling facility has been chosen and that a ship-specific recycling plan has been produced based on the information provided in the completed IHM.

#### **5.0 Requirements for Ship Recycling Facilities**

Starting on 26 June 2025, ship recycling facilities operating in Bangladesh must comply with the following requirements of the HKC. Ship Recycling Facility Plan, Ship Specific Recycling Plan must be approved by the Ship Recycling Board as stated in the Bangladesh Ship Recycling Act, 2018 and the Rules made there under.

#### **6.0 Actions to take**

##### **6.1 Shipowners and Operators**

For those owners building new ships<sup>1</sup>, these vessels should be contracted to include an IHM and valid IC at delivery time.

For owners of existing Bangladesh ships that do not currently hold an approved IHM and valid IHM certification, we recommend commencing preparation of the IHM as soon as possible. Where necessary, owners may enlist the help of a third-party company to undertake sampling and analysis for hazardous materials. DoS-approved service suppliers who can assist with this. An international certificate on inventory of hazardous materials (IC) is to be issued to existing ships. Ships already issued with HKC IHM Statements of Compliance will have them replaced with ICs.

<sup>1</sup>“New ship” means a ship:

- For which the building contract is placed on or after 26 June 2025 or
- In the absence of a building contract, the keel of which is laid or which is at a similar stage of construction on or after 26 December 2025 or
- The delivery of which is on or after 26 June 2030.

This order will be effective immediately.



01-09-2024

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(Not in the order of

Copy for Kind Information and Necessary Action seniority)

:

1. Senior Secretary , Office of the Senior Secretary, Office of Shipping ministry;
2. Senior Secretary, Senior Secretary's Office, Ministry of Industry;
3. Bangladesh Shipping Corporation, BSC Bhaban Saltgola Road, P.O. Box No. 641, Chittagong-4100, Bangladesh;
4. All officers of Department of Shipping;
5. Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Office;
6. Shipping Master (C.C. ), Office of the Shipping Master, Government Shipping Office;
7. System Analyst, ICT Section, Department of Shipping (With upload request on the notice board of the Department of Shipping);
8. Bangladesh Merchant Marine Officers Association, Portland Sattar Tower (3rd Floor), 1776, Strand Road, Opposite of CPA Gate No.01, Barek Building, Agrabad C/A, Chattogram-4100, Bangladesh;
9. Bangladesh Shipping Agent's Association, Madinah Trade Centre (2nd Floor),78, Agrabad C/A, Chattogram-4100, Bangladesh;
10. Bangladesh ocean going ship owners association (BOGSOA), House-11/B (4th floor), Road-30, Block-CWS (A), Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212;
11. Bangladesh Ship Breakers Association, House no.375, Road-13, CDA residential area, agrabad, Chattogram.;
12. ABS Classification of Shipping (Bangladesh) Ltd, High tower (9th floor) 9 Mohakhali C/A, Bir Uttam A K Khondaker Sarak, Banani, Dhaka;
13. Bureau Veritas(BV) (Bureau Veritas Bangladesh Private Limited), Main(Chattoqram) Office: Shahjadi Chamber(5th Floor) 1331/B, Sheikh Mujib Road Agrabad Commercial Area Chattogram 4100;
14. DNV, 1/D Agrabad Commercial Area HBFC Building, 4th Floor, 4100 Chittagong;
15. Indian Register of shipping (IRS), Makkah Madina Trade Centre (MMTC), 7th Floor, 78, Agrabad C/A, Chattogram- 4000;
16. Lloyd's Register Bangladesh Pvt Ltd. 3rd Floor, Lokman Tower, 1646, Sk Mujib Road, Pathantuly, Agrabad, Chattogram-4100, Bangladesh;
17. Nippon Kaij Koykay (Classnk), Amin Future Park (4th Floor) 1440/A, Strand Road Chittagong-4100 and
18. Registro Italiano Navale (RINA), RINA Bangladesh Limited Police Plaza Concord (11th Floor) Plot No-2, Road No-144, Gulshan-1 Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh.

