

The Arctic Summit News

A special series of ECOs on the occasion of PPR 7

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ECO is published and financed by non-governmental environmental groups with thanks to the Clean Arctic Alliance for their support of ECO's work.



Welcome to the Arctic Summit News!

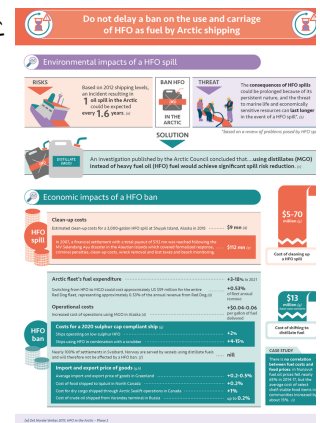
ECO is pleased to be in the vibrant and cosmopolitan city of London for the 7th session of the International Maritime Organization's Pollution Prevention & Response sub-committee meeting. What's that – IMO meetings are always in London? But what about IMO's Torremolinos Convention, Cape Town Agreement, Hong Kong Convention? ECO assumed that covering the debates and progress of the international shipping community would be an opportunity to tour the IMO Members' capitals. Oh well, ECO is still pleased to be at the IMO – a first for ECO.

This year's PPR sub-committee and IMO Members have a very busy agenda with a wide range of pollution prevention issues to consider and important decisions to be made. Given that it is just over 10 years since the publication of the Arctic Council's Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment, it is very timely that PPR has not one but two Arctic focused agenda items – mitigating heavy fuel oil spill risk and reducing the impacts of black carbon emissions. In the face of the global climate crisis being experienced first hand in the Arctic and by Arctic Indigenous communities, ECO has decided that the Arctic will be the focus of this series of ECOs and ECO will dub PPR 7, the IMO's Arctic Summit.

Heading to a HFO Free Arctic

One of PPR's important tasks this week is to consider impact assessments and develop a ban on HFO use and carriage as fuel by ships in Arctic waters. An Antarctic ban has been in place for nearly a decade, and ECO sees no reason why the presence of communities and polar bears would mean that the Arctic should be considered less vulnerable or less sensitive. Indeed, special consideration must be given to the views of Indigenous groups. Eleven IMO Members have proposed draft ban language, and ECO believes every effort must now focus on finalizing the amendments and sending them to MEPC for approval and adoption. ECO does wonder about a five-year delay in implementation for ships complying with oil fuel tank protections. What will have changed in 5 years' time to justify such a delay?

"Do not delay a ban on the use and carriage of HFO fuel by Arctic shipping" - a new infographic from the Clean Arctic Alliance available at PPR7 today!



"Technical failures, HFO spill risks, and inferior black carbon reductions"

Among the notable agenda items that ECO will be following closely during PPR 7 is a review of the 2015 Guidelines for Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS), and an evaluation and harmonization of rules and guidance on the discharge of liquid effluents from EGCS into waters. It seems obvious to ECO that this is a timely and urgent issue as increasing numbers of ships are installing these systems to continue

to burn HFO under IMO 2020. EGCS also do not address the spill risk associated with the use of HFO and provide inferior black carbon reductions. From ECO's perspective, an immediate moratorium on the use of EGCS should be considered while the marine impacts and efficacy of these systems are fully assessed. Further, ECO thinks that "harmonization" must not hinder States from enacting stronger regulations.

Dates For Your Diary:

Monday, 17 Feb	Tuesday, 18 Feb
<p>Lunchtime side event: <i>"Benefits and Impacts of an Arctic HFO Ban – Case Study of the Canadian Mining Sector"</i> Time: 13:20 - 13:50 Where: Main Hall – ground floor</p>	<p>Breakfast Spanish event: <i>"Impacto del carbono negro y de los combustibles pesados en el Ártico"</i> Time: 08:00 – 09:15 Where: Committee Room 14</p>
<p>Evening Reception – Inuit Circumpolar Council: <i>"IMAVUT"</i> Time: 17:45 – 20:00 Where: Delegates Lounge</p>	<p>Lunchtime side event: <i>"Arctic Community Perspectives on the Effects of International Shipping"</i> Time: 13:20 - 13:50 Where: Main Hall (ground floor)</p>

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It was my first voyage aboard the _____. During a cold and _____ night, the
 (NAME) (ADJECTIVE)
 captain pounded on my cabin door. " _____!" he yelled. "There's a
 (NICKNAME)
 _____ in the _____ and there's more on the ice!" I
 (ZOO ANIMAL) (LOCATION ON A SHIP)
 had to see this for myself, and sure enough, outside were _____ of
 (NUMBER)
 more _____ beasts trying to scale the hull. " _____!" I cried. The
 (ADJECTIVE) (INTERJECTION)
 Captain grabbed me by the _____. "You're the _____
 (BODY PART) (JOB POSITION)
 / take a _____ and get that thing off this boat." "Aye, aye, Captain!" I said,
 (TOOL)
 but all I could think about was being back in _____ with a _____ in one
 (PLACE NAME) (DRINK)
 hand a _____ in the other.
 (OBJECT)