

IMO and regional ocean governance

A brief overview of IMO's environmental work
in a regional context

Fredrik Haag
Office for the London Convention/Protocol and Ocean Affairs
Marine Environment Division

Outline of the presentation

- IMO and its mandate
- Overview of IMO conventions of relevance for regional ocean governance
- How can regional ocean governance be strengthened – an IMO perspective



The International Maritime Organization

- The United Nations specialized agency responsible for safe, secure and efficient shipping and the prevention of pollution from shipping
- 171 Member States and three Associate Members, including all major ship-owning nations and all major coastal states
- About half of the 53 international treaties adopted by IMO so far are directly environmentally related



“Safe, secure and efficient shipping on cleaner oceans”

IMO and Sustainable Development

Shipping shipping is intrinsically linked to all three pillars of sustainable development:

- to the **economic** pillar through safe secure and efficient shipping;
- to the **social** pillar by directly and indirectly supporting the livelihoods of all economies and people around the world; and
- to the **environmental** pillar by carrying out this activity in a way that does not impact the marine and atmospheric environments.

IMO's work on environmental issues – Some current topics

- Ballast water management
- Air pollution and GHG
- Ship recycling
- Ships operating in polar waters
- Pollution preparedness and response
- Dumping of wastes at sea
- PSSAs
- Special Areas under MARPOL



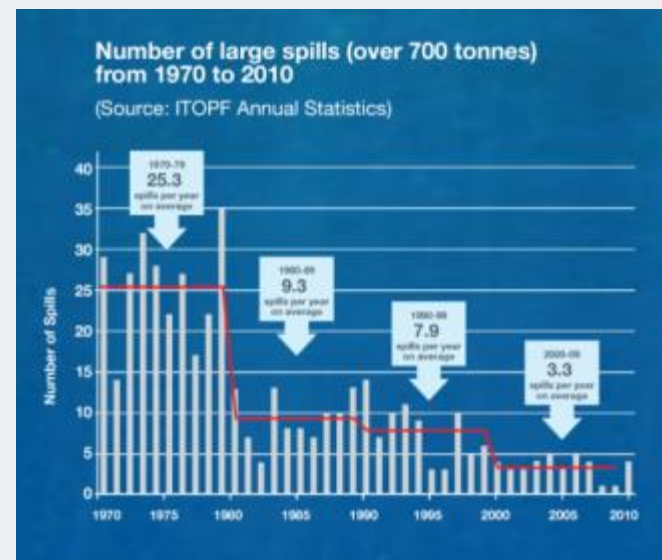
Examples

Pollution preparedness and response

Ensures effective preparedness measures and readiness, and promote cooperation amongst Parties through the establishment of bilateral and multilateral agreements to augment national-level response capacity.

OPRC 1990 and the OPRC-HNS Protocol (2010) - preparedness and response to incidents

Regional activities include the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa (GI WACAF Project), a partnership between IMO and IPIECA, to enhance the capacity of countries to prepare for and respond to marine oil spills.





Ballast water management

Objective: to prevent, reduce and ultimately eliminate the risks to the environment, human health, property and resources caused by the transfer of aquatic organisms and pathogens by ships

This will be achieved through the control and management of ships' ballast water and sediments

The discharge of ballast water into the sea shall be managed according to the provisions of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention)





Air pollution

Shipping is the most environmentally-friendly means of transport thanks to its efficiency, but it does have significant impact particularly on coastal areas mainly due to the widespread use of heavy fuel oil

Significant reductions in the emissions of all air pollutants generated on board are possible through the application of an array of abatement technologies and other technical and operational measures

In 2011, IMO adopted mandatory technical and



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