



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRILLING CONTRACTORS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alan Spackman, Vice President, Offshore Technical and Regulatory Affairs

SUBJECT: Report on the 15th session of the Editorial and Technical (E&T) Group

DATE: 14 July 2011

The 15th meeting of the Editorial and Technical (E&T) Group was held from 6 to 15 April 2011 Mrs. Olga P. Lefèvre (France) to prepare the draft text of amendments (36-12) to the IMDG Code. The meeting was attended by delegations from: 14 Member Governments, 1 United Nations organization, and 2 non-governmental organizations. The International Association of Drilling Contractors was not represented.

Issues addressed during the session that may be of interest to offshore exploration and production industries included:

Use of flexible bulk containers

Having noted that the TDG Sub-Committee and the Global Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals adopted provisions for the use and construction of Flexible Bulk Containers (FBC), the group considered a proposal from Belgium on restriction on the use of FBCs, particularly on long distances and on container or ro-ro ships.

As there were divergent views, and since the Group could not take a definitive position on the use of FBCs in the context of maritime transport, it placed the relevant text in square brackets and invited the Sub-Committee on Dangerous Goods, Solid Cargoes and Containers (DSC) to take a decision on the incorporation of the associated provisions in amendment 36-12 of the IMDG Code.

Harmonization of Proper Shipping Names

Having noted discrepancies in the proper shipping names in the IMDG Code and the Recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods, the group agreed, as a matter of principle, to completely harmonize the proper shipping names in the IMDG Code with those in the Recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods.

Draft amendment 36-12 of the IMDG Code

The group requested the Secretariat to prepare the consolidated text of the draft amendment 36-12 of the IMDG Code, taking into account the decisions taken and modifications prepared by the group in accordance with the instructions of the Sub-Committee, for consideration by DSC 16 with the view to adoption by the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC).

The group also invited the Sub-Committee to:

- Request the Secretariat to ensure that the future versions of the IMDG Code (i.e. the publication, CD ROM and internet versions) are fully harmonized;
- Note the group's observation that SOLAS regulation II-2/19 is not applicable to dangerous goods packed in limited quantities and consider whether the provisions of SOLAS regulation II-2/19 should be amended accordingly;
- Note that the group had mixed views on the alignment of the relevant provisions related to the durability of the marking and placarding on packages and decide accordingly; and
- Agree to the draft MSC circular on Amendments to the Emergency Response Procedures for Ships carrying Dangerous Goods (EmS Guide), for submission to MSC for approval.

The complete report of the Committee, including its annexes, can be obtained from the IMO portion of the IADC Website at: <http://www.iadc.org/committees/offshore/IMO.html>.

Please feel free to contact me by phone (+1 713 292 1964) or e-mail (alan.spackman@iadc.org) with any questions you may have regarding this report.