

4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT
LONDON SE1 7SR
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

LC-LP.1/Circ.87
1 February 2019

**CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION OF MARINE POLLUTION BY DUMPING
OF WASTES AND OTHER MATTER, 1972 AND ITS 1996 PROTOCOL**

JOINT WORK PROGRAMME

2019-2021

1 Since 2008, the Joint Work Programme (JWP) has been updated directly after the session of the governing bodies at the end of each year and has served as a reference document at the start of the new meetings' season. Those updates were provided in light of achievements and decisions at preceding sessions of the governing bodies and incorporated, as instructed, the activities given to the LC/LP Scientific Groups and the LP Compliance Group. The governing bodies and their subsidiary bodies would then focus their discussions on future work set out in the short priority tables provided in the JWP, as used in previous years (LC 30/16, paragraphs 13.12 to 13.16).

2 In 2016, the governing bodies adopted a Strategic Plan for the London Protocol and London Convention (LC 38/16, annex 2), intended to facilitate the implementation of the two treaties in order to contribute to the prevention of marine pollution and to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Plan also has a clear mandate to promote the ratification and accession to the London Protocol. In 2017, the governing bodies approved the implementation plan for the Strategic Plan and, in a departure from the normal practice of updating the JWP, agreed that a full revision of the JWP should be undertaken.

3 In 2018, the governing bodies, having reviewed progress made in implementing the JWP (annex to LC-LP.1/Circ.85), and taking into account the discussion and outcome under agenda item 3 and relevant actions agreed during the session, instructed the Secretariat to, taking into account achievements during the current session, finalize the new JWP, which had been streamlined at that session, for the period 2019-2021 to be issued as a circular. The governing bodies also reiterated their recommendation to the Scientific Groups, the LP Compliance Group, and the B2C Steering Group that they restructure their work programmes to align with the JWP.

4 This circular contains, in the annexes, the following elements:

Annex 1: Joint Work Programme for the London Protocol and London Convention (updated from LC 40/16, annex 2);

Annex 2: Joint Work Programme for the Scientific Groups (updated from LC 40/16, annex 7); and

Annex 3: Future work programme of the London Protocol Compliance Group
(updated from LC 40/16, annex 3).

ANNEX 1

JOINT WORK PROGRAMME 2019-2021

Supports Strategic Directions				Description	WHEN				WHO				
SD1	SD2	SD3	SD4		2019	2020	2021	Target Completion Date	GBs (Contracting Parties)	SGs	LP CG	B2C	OLCP (Sec)
	✓	✓	✓	1	Review and develop guidance and address technical and scientific issues to enhance implementation of the London Convention and Protocol					✓	✓		
	✓	✓	✓	1.1	Waste Assessment Guidance (WAG): Generic and Specific Assessment Guidelines					✓	✓		
					.1 Review of Generic and Specific Guidelines	M	M	M	Ongoing		✓		
					.2 Review of Specific Guidelines for the assessment of platforms and other manmade structures at sea	H	L		2019		✓		
					.3 Development of recommendations regarding fibreglass vessels	H	L		2019		✓		
					.4 Development of further guidance on disposal site selection	H	M		2019		✓		
					.5 Development of recommendations about further guidance on marine cumulative effects assessment	H	M		2019		✓		
					.6 Review of and experience with practical implementation of the WAGs	M	M	M	Ongoing		✓		
					.7 Development of recommendations regarding default action levels	M			2019		✓		
					.8 Collection of information on protection of higher trophic levels as related to the WAGs	L			2019		✓		
					.9 Waste prevention techniques	M	L	L	Ongoing		✓		
					.10 Consideration of the consequences of new waste prevention techniques on implementation of the LP/LC				Ongoing		✓		
✓	✓	✓		1.2	Other technical and scientific issues					✓	✓		
					.1 Habitat modification/enhancement	M	M	M	Ongoing		✓		
					.2 Beneficial use of waste or other materials	M	M	M	Ongoing		✓		
					.3 Sewage sludge best practices and alternatives.	L	L	L	2019		✓		
✓	✓	✓		1.3	Monitoring and Assessment					✓	✓		
					.1 Reports and assessment of field monitoring	H	H	H	Ongoing		✓		
					.2 Research results, new techniques and strategies	M	M	M	Ongoing		✓		
				1.4	Science Day					✓	✓		
	✓	✓	✓		.1 Identify Science Day topic to support effective implementation of the LP/LC or to identify and evaluate emerging issues. As appropriate, invite experts to participate in Science Day formatted as an open symposium	M	M	M	Ongoing		✓		

Supports Strategic Directions				Description	WHEN				WHO				
SD1	SD2	SD3	SD4		2019	2020	2021	Target Completion Date	GBs (Contracting Parties)	SGs	LP CG	B2C	OLCP (Sec)
	✓		✓	2	Address and manage climate change					✓	✓		
	✓		✓	2.1	CO₂ sequestration in sub-seabed geological formations (LP)					✓	✓		
					.1 Experience with implementation of CO ₂ sequestration guidelines/technologies and their	M	M	M	Ongoing		✓		
					.2 Compilation of information on ongoing projects and experiences with the application of the CO ₂ sequestration guidelines				2019		✓		✓
	✓		✓	2.2	Marine Geoengineering					✓	✓		
					.1 Keep under review the marine environmental implications of marine geoengineering	L	L	L	Ongoing		✓		
					.2 Evaluation of GESAMP report on marine geoengineering activities				2019		✓		
					.3 Compilation of information on planned and ongoing marine geoengineering projects				Ongoing		✓		
✓	✓		✓	3	Boundary issues and emerging matters of concern					✓	✓	✓	
✓	✓	✓	✓	3.1	Cooperation with certain UN agencies and industry orgs., as appropriate, with regard to:				Ongoing	✓	✓		
					.1 Riverine and marine disposal of tailings and associated wastes from mining operations	M	L		2019		✓		
					.1.1 Evaluation of GESAMP report on riverine and marine disposal of mine tailings				tbd		✓		
					.1.2 Share information on actions undertaken by other bodies, e.g., OSPAR				2019				
					.2 Marine Litter and Microplastics	M	M	M	2019		✓		
					.2.1 Development of inventory on issue of marine litter and microplastics (LP/LC relevant issues)	M	M	M	2019		✓		
					.3 Cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea	M	M	L	tbd		✓		
					.4 Deep Seabed Mining	L	L	L	Ongoing		✓		
					.4.1 Deep seabed mining in Area: Evaluation of relevant GESAMP report; provision of expertise regarding waste assessment to ISA				tbd		✓		
					.4.2 Deep seabed mining in areas of national jurisdiction: development of summary of seabed mining activities/projects taking place in areas of national jurisdiction				2019		✓		
					5. Outstanding cooperative work	M	L	L	tbd		✓		
					5.1 Jettisoned space vehicle components - dialogue with COPUOS	L	L	L	2019				
	✓			3.2	Underwater noise from anthropogenic sources (LP-LC noise related issues only)	L	L	L	Ongoing	✓	✓		
	✓	✓		4	Address matters related to the management of radioactive wastes and other matter					✓	✓		
	✓	✓		4.1	Review of ongoing issues in relation to dumping of radioactive wastes and other matter	L	L	L	Ongoing	✓	✓		

Supports Strategic Directions				Description	WHEN				WHO					
SD1	SD2	SD3	SD4		2019	2020	2021	Target Completion Date	GBs (Contracting Parties)	SGs	LP CG	B2C	OLCP (Sec)	
	✓			5	Promote and improve compliance with the LP and LC					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	✓			5.1	Implementation of compliance procedures and mechanisms (LP)	H	H	H	Ongoing			✓		
	✓			5.2	Improve reporting under the LP and LC					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	✓			5.3	Compliance with the reporting requirements under the LP and LC	H	H	H	Ongoing	✓		✓		
	✓				.1 Contracting Parties submit annual reports on dumping permits issued	H	H	H	Ongoing	✓				
	✓				.2 Contracting Parties submit their compliance and field monitoring reports	H	H	H	Ongoing	✓				
	✓				.3 Contracting Parties submit their legislative and administrative measures, and the effectiveness of the measures					✓				
	✓				.4 Provide assistance existing and prospective parties to strengthen reporting							✓	✓	✓
	✓				.5 Implementation of electronic reporting of dumping activities	M	L	L	Ongoing					✓
	✓				.6 Enhanced collaboration with regional bodies on reporting	M	M	M	Ongoing	✓		✓		✓
	✓				.7 Review, circulate and publish summary reports with data for target SD1	H	H	H	Ongoing					✓
	✓				.8 Review, circulate, and publish all data associated with target SD2, including annual summaries of reports received (e.g. dumping, permits issued, monitoring, legislative and administrative measures, and the effectiveness of the measures).	H	H	H	Ongoing			✓	✓	
	✓			5.4	Development and Implementation of an Action Plan to Improve Reporting under the LP and LC					✓	✓	✓	✓	
	✓			5.5	Technical/Scientific review and assessment of dumping and monitoring reports	H	H	H	Ongoing		✓			
	✓			5.6	Reporting of observed dumping incidents which may be in violation of international treaties	L	L	L	Ongoing	✓		✓		
✓	✓	✓		6	Promote LP through outreach, technical cooperation and assistance to existing members for implementation and prospective members for ratification or accession					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓		✓	6.1	Provide technical and legal cooperation and assistance to existing and prospective members	M	M	M	Ongoing		✓		✓	
					.1 Complete "Barriers to Compliance" Project Work Plan	M	M	M	Ongoing		✓		✓	
					.2 Reporting on the Technical Co-operation Trust Fund	M	M	M	Ongoing					
					.3 Create tools to support countries in the development of LP implementing legislation							✓	✓	✓

Supports Strategic Directions				Description	WHEN				WHO					
SD1	SD2	SD3	SD4		2019	2020	2021	Target Completion Date	GBs (Contracting Parties)	SGs	LP CG	B2C	OLCP (Sec)	
✓		✓		6.2	Provide outreach materials to prospective new Contracting Parties and existing members new communications materials, including regional workshops and country-to-country outreach strategies	M	M	M	Ongoing				✓	
					.1 Improvement/update of the LP and LC website	M	M	M	Ongoing		✓		✓	✓
					.2 Promotion of the LP and LC at international meetings, including high level audiences	M	L	L	Ongoing					✓
					.3 Update all existing publications and prepare new publications, and promote approved publications in accordance with communications plans						✓		✓	✓
	✓	✓			.4 Guidelines, Manuals, Bibliographies and Information Exchange (it is not clear if this item overlaps with ".3 Update all existing publications and prepare new publications	M	M	M	Ongoing		✓			
✓	✓	✓			.5 Establish a communications group or dedicated individual or promotions officer to support SD1, SD3				Ongoing	✓	✓		✓	✓
✓	✓	✓			.6 Create a virtual centre of excellence in Scientific Groups (e.g., on dredging and disposal, geoengineering, etc., through better proposition of guidance and technical assistance				Ongoing	✓			✓	✓
	✓			6.3	Update national focal points and expert registration	M	L	L	Ongoing	✓				✓
	✓	✓	✓	7	Promote the work of the LP and LC externally through relations with other organizations in the field of marine environmental protection					✓	✓	✓		✓
		✓		7.1	Improve and further develop the implementation of collaborative arrangements with other UN entities, IGOs and NGOs	M	M	M	Ongoing	✓	✓			✓
	✓		✓	7.2	Advice from international organizations on specific issues – GESAMP	M	M	M	Ongoing	✓	✓			✓
	✓	✓		7.3	Contribution to the major ocean-related initiatives on reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment	M	M	M	Ongoing	✓	✓			
					.1 Follow up with Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment (UN Regular Process)	M	M	M	Ongoing	✓	✓			
				7.4	Promotion of LP/LC scientific groups as formal body for scientific cooperation and collaboration									
✓	✓	✓	✓	8	Address overarching and cross-cutting issues, including assessment of implications of changes to marine environment (SD4 first task of implementation plan)					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓	8.1	Operationalize and implement the Strategic Plan for the London Protocol and London Convention	M	M	M	Ongoing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	✓			8.2	Review Work Programmes	M	M	M	Ongoing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

ANNEX 2

JOINT WORK PROGRAMME OF THE SCIENTIFIC GROUPS (2019-2021)

SD	Description	2019	2020	2021	Target completion date
SD 2, SD 3	<p>WASTE ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of the Specific Guidance for platforms and other man-made structures at sea - Development of recommendations regarding fibreglass vessels - Guidance on disposal site selection - Recommendations about the need for marine cumulative effects assessment - Overview of waste prevention techniques - Review of and experience with practical implementation of the WAGs - Development of recommendations regarding default action levels - Collection of information on protection of higher trophic levels as it relates to the WAG 	H	L		2019
		H	L		2019
		H	M	M	2019
		H	M	M	2019
		L	L		ONGOING
		M	M	M	ONGOING
		M			2019
		L			2019
	MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT				
SD 2	- Assess field monitoring reports	H	H	H	ONGOING
SD 2	- Research results, new techniques, strategies, etc.	M	M	M	ONGOING

SD	Description	2019	2020	2021	Target completion date
SD 3	- Contribution to the major ocean-related initiatives on reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment	M	M	M	ONGOING
	CO ₂ SEQUESTRATION				
SD 2, SD 4	- Experience with practical implementation of the CO ₂ Sequestration Guidelines and with CO ₂ sequestration technologies and their application	M	M	M	ONGOING
	MARINE GEOENGINEERING				
SD 2, SD 4	- Keep under review the marine environmental implications of marine geoengineering	L	L	L	ONGOING
SD 1, SD 2, SD 4*	TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE				
	- "Barriers to Compliance" Project – review of the Implementation Plan	M	M	M	ONGOING
	- Regional and national workshops and evaluation of feedback questionnaires	M	M	M	ONGOING
	- Technical advice to specific countries, including "twinning" and lead-country arrangements	M	M	M	ONGOING
	- Implementation of a communication strategy for London Protocol Manual	L	L	L	ONGOING
	- Improvement/update of the LC/LP website	M	M	M	ONGOING

SD	Description	2019	2020	2021	Target completion date
SD 2, SD 4	HABITAT MODIFICATION/ENHANCEMENT				
	Beneficial use of waste or other materials - Experience with habitat enhancement	M M	M M	M M	ONGOING ONGOING
SD 2	REVIEW AND IMPROVEMENT OF REPORTING				
	- Review of dumping reports	H	H	H	ONGOING
	- Review of reporting requirements	M	M	M	ONGOING
	- Improve reporting under the LP and LC	M	M	M	ONGOING
	- Assess trial of new format	M	L		2019
	- Implementation of the online reporting module for GISIS (building on work of the review of reporting requirements)	L			2019
	- Collaboration [and cooperation] with other international bodies	M	M	M	ONGOING
	- Collaboration with the LP Compliance Group	M	M	M	ONGOING
SD 2	MATTERS RELATED TO RADIOACTIVE WASTES	L	L	L	ONGOING

SD	Description	2019	2020	2021	Target completion date
SD 2, SD 3, SD 4	<p>COASTAL MANAGEMENT AND PREVENTION OF MARINE POLLUTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperation with other United Nations agencies and industry organizations, as appropriate, with regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disposal of wastes and other matter in the marine environment from mining operations, including marine mineral mining 2. Marine litter and microplastics (LC/LP-relevant issues only) 3. Chemical munitions dumped at sea 4. Deep seabed mining [in the Area, and in areas of national jurisdiction] 5. Sewage sludge best practices and alternatives 	M	L	L	2019
		M	M	M	2019
		M	L		2019
		L	L	L	ONGOING
		L	L		2019
	- Underwater noise from anthropogenic sources (LC/LP-related issues only)	L	L	L	ONGOING
	- Jettisoned space vehicle components – dialogue with the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS)	L	L	L	ONGOING
	- Review relevant guidelines from COPUOS	L	L		2019
SD 2, SD 3	GUIDELINES, MANUALS, BIBLIOGRAPHIES AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE	M	M	M	ONGOING

SD	Description	2019	2020	2021	Target completion date
SD 2, SD 3, SD 4	SCIENCE/TECHNICAL SESSION: ISSUE-FOCUSED DAY	M	M	M	ONGOING
	REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAMME				
	- Review Scientific Groups' Work Programme	M	M	M	ANNUAL
	- Support the implementation of the Strategic Plan	M	M	M	ONGOING

Legend:

H high-priority item

M medium-priority item

L low-priority item

SD Strategic Direction (as per the LP/LC Strategic Plan)

* Relates to work of the Scientific Groups only

ANNEX 3

FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE LONDON PROTOCOL COMPLIANCE GROUP

SD	Description	2019	2020	2021	Target completion date
SD 2	1. treat individual submissions of possible non-compliance as a priority in the work programme when they arise;				
SD 2	2. continue working relationships with other relevant LP groups including the B2C group, and the CGADR as well as regional bodies working on related compliance issues;				
SD 2	3. continue to review dumping reports referred to the Compliance Group pursuant to paragraph 6.2 of CPM, including where concerns have been identified by the LP Scientific Group;				
SD 1	4. consistent with CPM, assist non-Contracting Parties requesting support in acceding to the Protocol;				
SD 1	5. assist Contracting Parties to meet compliance obligations, and support interested non-Contracting Parties in strengthening reporting and other requirements that would facilitate their accession to the Protocol;				
SD 2	6. continue to identify and review the factors contributing to the difficulties experienced by Contracting Parties in fulfilling their reporting obligations under articles 9.4.1 and 10.3; identify options to address those factors; and make recommendations for improving the rate of reporting under the Protocol and mechanisms for gathering information from Parties, and keep under review the presentation of the information contained in the reports;				
SD 2	6b. continue to identify and review the factors contributing to the difficulties experienced by Contracting Parties in fulfilling their reporting obligations				

SD	Description	2019	2020	2021	Target completion date
	under articles 9.4.2 and 9.4.3; identify options to address those factors; and make recommendations for improving the rate of reporting under the Protocol and mechanisms for gathering information from Parties, and keep under review the presentation of the information contained in the reports;				
SD 2	7. examine reports received under all other relevant LP articles, use these results in combination with historical documents to clarify the intention behind these requirements, and develop materials to facilitate compliance with these reporting requirements;				
SD 2	8. ensure historical documents related to the development of the London Protocol are available to Contracting Parties;				
SD 2, SD 3	9. review and develop materials and inputs regarding its role in compliance promotion in collaboration with the Secretariat;				
SD 2	10. facilitate the creation of tools to support countries in the development of implementing legislation for the London Protocol;				
SD 2	11. continue to develop recommendations to increase participation in the Group as required;				
SD 4	12. consider emerging issues that may represent potential incidents of non-compliance, and make recommendations to the governing body as appropriate.				