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MEPC.1/Circ.893
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PROVISION OF ADEQUATE FACILITIES AT PORTS AND TERMINALS FOR THE RECEPTION OF PLASTIC WASTE FROM SHIPS

1 The Marine Environment Protection Committee (the Committee) at its seventy-third session, having recognized that more needed to be done to address the environmental and health problems posed by marine plastic litter, adopted the *Action plan to address marine plastic litter from ships* (resolution MEPC.310(73)) (Action Plan).

2 The Action Plan, which builds on existing policy and regulatory frameworks, identifies opportunities to enhance these frameworks and introduce new supporting measures to address the issue of marine plastic litter from ships. The Action Plan includes, inter-alia, some measures to improve the effectiveness of port reception facilities and treatment in reducing marine plastic litter.

3 To progress the Action Plan, the Committee reminds Parties to MARPOL Annex V of their obligation under regulation 8 of MARPOL Annex V to ensure the provision of adequate facilities at ports and terminals for the reception of garbage, including plastic waste from ships and fishing gear, without causing undue delay to ships, and according to the needs of the ships using these facilities.

4 Parties are also reminded that the Committee had, with a view to facilitating efficient and environmentally responsible disposal of MARPOL wastes/residues, adopted and/or approved the following manual and guidelines relating to port reception facilities:

- .1 *Port Reception Facilities – How to do it (2016)*;
- .2 *Guidelines for ensuring the adequacy of port waste reception facilities* (resolution MEPC.83(44)); and
- .3 *Consolidated guidance for port reception facility providers and users* (MEPC.1/Circ.834/Rev.1).

5 Parties are further reminded of their obligation to notify the Organization for transmission to the Contracting Parties concerned of all cases where the facilities provided under regulation 8 of MARPOL Annex V are alleged to be inadequate. Such notification should be submitted through the Port Reception Facilities module in the Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS).

6 In this regard, port States are also reminded to provide proper arrangements to consider and respond appropriately and effectively to reports of inadequacies, informing the Organization and the reporting flag State of the outcome of their investigation (MEPC.1/Circ.834/Rev.1, paragraph 41).