

OSPAR Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic, and Helsinki Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area Meeting of the Joint HELCOM/OSPAR Task Group on Ballast Water Management Convention (BWMC) and Biofouling (TG BALLAST 11-2020)

Online: 26-27 November 2020

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## Audit of port reception facilities for BW sediments

Presented by Spain

**Issue: This document presents an audit of port reception facilities for BW sediments.**

### Action requested

1. JTG-Ballast is invited to;
  - a. Take note of this initiative and share information on similar activities in respective State parties.

### Background

2. Ballast Water Management Convention in Article 5 Sediment Reception Facilities reads,

*1 Each Party undertakes to ensure that, in ports and terminals designated by that Party where cleaning or repair of ballast tanks occurs, adequate facilities are provided for the reception of Sediments, taking into account the Guidelines developed by the Organization. Such reception facilities shall operate without causing undue delay to ships and shall provide for the safe disposal of such Sediments that does not impair or damage their environment, human health, property or resources or those of other States.*

Spain is committed to provide such facilities in ship building and repair yards in all National ports, as established in Article 132 by Ports Law 27/92 and correspondent amendments.

Spanish National Ports Agency – OPPE decided to pay visit to all said port facilities to inspect and assess whether proper means and procedures are being implemented according to IMO GUIDELINES FOR SEDIMENT RECEPTION FACILITIES (G1).

Audits shall include identification of each facility and visit, description of services provided and volumes, identification of personnel assignments and training, description of means of collection, treatment and disposal or further delivery of sediments, procedures to guarantee ‘cradle-to-grave’ approach, analysis of unplanned events (i.e. near misses and accidents), local environmental regulations affecting operations, future plans for the facility, graphical information, etc.

This initiative was planned to involve at least two people with competence on BW and residues fields respectively and has been postponed to 2021 due to COVID pandemic consecutive breakout and waves. The result of the activity could lead to best practices document.