Guidance for Waste Reception and Handling in Harbours
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**Nordic cooperation**

*Nordic cooperation* is one of the world’s most extensive forms of regional collaboration, involving Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and three autonomous areas: the Faroe Islands, Greenland, and Åland. *Nordic cooperation* has firm traditions in politics, the economy, and culture. It plays an important role in European and international collaboration, and aims at creating a strong Nordic community in a strong Europe. *Nordic cooperation* seeks to safeguard Nordic and regional interests and principles in the global community. Common Nordic values help the region solidify its position as one of the world’s most innovative and competitive.
WHY THIS BROCHURE?

This brochure is for harbourmasters and/or harbour authorities who are responsible for the collection of waste and require adequate waste reception facilities in their harbour.

This brochure gives you simple and clear guidance on the procedures for the reception and handling of ship-generated waste in your harbour.

The brochure also focuses on the planning, establishment and ongoing management of harbour waste reception and handling facilities.

Because all harbours are required to have an effective Waste Management Plan (WMP) this brochure gives ‘step-by-step’ guidelines for making such a plan, how you can change and optimise waste management in your harbour, and how to prevent marine pollution.

This brochure can be used by smaller harbours with fishery vessels or other craft.
WHAT DO THE REGULATIONS REQUIRE?

It is clear that harbourmasters and/or authorities are responsible for their harbour. Regarding waste, their most important responsibilities are:

A) To have adequate waste reception and handling facilities for ship-generated waste in the harbour

B) To have a Harbour Waste Management Plan (WMP)

The harbourmaster and/or authority has to assess the need for waste reception and handling and decide what type of waste reception facilities are necessary.

A harbour needs to fulfil requirements of domestic and international regulations on waste reception and handling in harbours, which are presented e.g. in the ´MARPOL Convention 73/78 on the Prevention of Pollution from Ships´ and the ´Directive 2000/59/EC on Port Reception Facilities for ship-generated Waste and Cargo Residues´.

**MARPOL Convention 73/78**

The MARPOL Convention is the main international convention covering the prevention of pollution of the marine environment by ships.

**Directive 2000/59/EC**

The purpose of the Directive is to reduce the discharges of ship-generated waste into the sea and improving the availability and use of harbour waste facilities.
MARPOL Convention 73/78

The MARPOL Convention 73/78 includes regulations aimed at preventing and minimizing pollution from ships, both accidental pollution and that from routine operations. MARPOL includes 6 technical annexes(1) that undertake to ensure the provision of waste reception facilities that are adequate to meet the needs of ships using the harbours without causing undue delay to ships.

**ANNEX I – OIL WASTE**

Annex I specifies the requirements for discharge, monitoring and provision of reception and treatment facilities for oily waste and residues at oil terminals and harbours.

**ANNEX II – CHEMICAL WASTE**

Annex II requires that ports and terminals shall have facilities for the reception of waste, residues and mixtures containing noxious liquid substances.

**ANNEX IV – SEWAGE**

Annex IV contains a set of requirements regarding the discharge of sewage into sea, ships' equipment and reception facilities for sewage at harbours adequate to meet the users needs.

**ANNEX V – GARBAGE**

Annex V obliges governments to ensure the provision of reception facilities in harbours for garbage, including all kinds of food and domestic and operational waste, but excluding fresh fish.

**ANNEX VI – AIR POLLUTION**

Annex VI requires that harbours have reception facilities for exhaust gas cleaning residues from ships.

(1) Annex III on Harmful Substances carried in packaged form is not included in the annexes presented above because it has no direct relevance with the requirements for waste reception facilities
The purpose of Directive 2000/59/EC is to reduce the discharges of ship-generated waste and cargo residues into the sea, especially illegal discharges from ships using harbours in the community, by improving the availability and use of harbour reception facilities for ship-generated waste, thereby enhancing the protection of the marine environment.

Annex I and II of the Directive presents the requirements for waste reception and handling plans in harbours. The so called Waste Management Plan (WMP) is the responsibility of the harbourmaster and/or authority and combines policies on reception and handling facilities for ship-generated waste in the harbour. The plan should demonstrate that all the domestic and international regulations are followed.

The WMP outlines the availability and accessibility of adequate waste reception and handling facilities in the harbour, the procedures for how waste facilities are operated and specifies that the facilities meet all needs of vessels normally using the harbour without causing unnecessary delay to the users.

The purpose of the Directive is to reduce and prevent waste disposal at sea, thus reducing the amount of waste washed ashore.
The purpose of Directive 2000/59/EC on port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues is to reduce the discharges of ship-generated waste and cargo residues into the sea, especially illegal discharges from ships using harbours in the community, by improving the availability and use of harbour reception facilities for ship-generated waste, thereby enhancing the protection of the marine environment.

Annex I and II of the Directive presents the requirements for waste reception and handling plans in harbours. The so-called Waste Management Plan (WMP) is the responsibility of the harbourmaster and/or authority and combines policies on reception and handling facilities for ship-generated waste in the harbour. The plan should demonstrate that all the domestic and international regulations are followed.

The WMP outlines the availability and accessibility of adequate waste reception and handling facilities in the harbour, the procedures for how waste facilities are operated and specifies that the facilities meet all needs of vessels normally using the harbour without causing unnecessary delay to the users.

The following six steps will make developing and writing a Harbour WMP straightforward and easy. On the next page an example of a WMP is presented.

**Step 1 - Legislation**

*Each harbourmaster and/or authority should check the laws and legislation concerning waste reception and handling in harbours in their country as a minimum.*

**Step 2 - Consultation**

*Use consultation to ensure that the waste facilities meet the needs of the users. You might consult both with harbour users and waste companies.*

**Step 3 - Need for Waste Facilities**

*Estimate the quantity of waste delivered to the harbour, describe the types of waste received and finally evaluate the type and capacity of the waste facilities. Give a description of the procedures for waste reception in the harbour and include the services provided by waste companies.*

**Step 4 - Location and Accessibility**

*Find the most convenient location for the waste facilities in co-operation with waste companies. The location for the waste facilities should ensure minimal risk of pollution. Encourage the vessel owners to use the waste facilities.*

**Step 5 - Cost for Waste Facilities**

*Describe how costs for waste reception and handling are covered e.g. by harbour- or disposal fees. These fees should only cover the costs of waste reception and handling. Contact the National authorities for more information about charging fees.*

**Step 6 - Inform Users**

*All harbour users should be informed about the location of waste facilities and how to use them. Make sure this information is also intelligible to foreign visitors.*
When planning a WMP it can be useful to contact other harbours and ask for their co-operation. Sharing best practice will enhance the effectiveness of waste reception and handling in the harbour and make the work easier.

After finishing your WMP make sure you review and update the plan every 3rd year or when it is needed e.g. changes of waste, ships visiting the harbour or other changes in the harbour that are not described in the existing plan.
WASTE YOU CAN EXPECT

This page presents examples of the most common types of waste that you can expect to receive in your harbour.

1) MUNICIPAL WASTE
e.g. household waste (garbage)

2) RECYCLABLE WASTE MATERIALS
e.g. paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, textile, wood and metal

3) TYPICAL FISHING GEAR WASTE
e.g. fishing nets, lines, floats, tubs or barrels, tools and equipment

4) BIO-ORGANIC WASTE
e.g. food and vegetable waste

5) HAZARDOUS WASTE
e.g. oil, chemicals, paint, batteries, toxic liquids, etc.

6) LIQUID WASTE
e.g. sludge, sewage and (oily) bilge (or ballast) water
PROCEDURES FOR WASTE RECEPTION AND HANDLING

This page presents procedures that enable adequate reception and handling of ship-generated waste in your harbour.

• Ships entering the harbour have to land their waste for disposal before departure.

• Masters/owners of ships are responsible for delivering their waste to the harbour waste reception facilities.

• Harbours should ensure the availability of adequate waste reception facilities that meet the needs of the users.

• The harbour should provide services to ship masters/owners for waste collection.

• All waste reception facilities should be easily recognisable e.g. by using clear signs, placards and sufficient lighting at the location.

• If your harbour regularly attracts visitors from overseas, it would be helpful to give this information in the relevant European languages. Using cartoon signs avoids the need for translation.

Examples of clear and easily recognisable signs for all users of waste reception facilities.
• All waste from ships has to be collected. The most common method is to use waste containers for solid waste and tanks for liquid waste.

• All waste reception facilities should be easily accessible for all users.

• All waste containers and tanks should be placed in adequate numbers and at appropriate locations.

• Waste reception facilities can be fixed/stationary or mobile (e.g. waste- or oil trucks).

• A harbour should have a well-published complaints procedure for reporting alleged inadequacies of harbour reception facilities that enable difficulties to be resolved locally.

• Users of waste reception facilities should be able to express whether they find the reception facilities adequate or not.

• Keep the site of waste reception facilities clean and tidy.

• All waste reception facilities should be placed according to the requirements, preventing ground and water pollution caused by leakage.

• A harbour might provide special services for waste collection from large ships that typically carry large amounts of waste.
MORE INFORMATION

Faroe Islands  Food, Veterinary and Environmental Agency
Phone: +298 35 64 00 – Internet: www.hfs.fo

Iceland  The Environment and Food Agency of Iceland
Phone: +354 591 20 00 – Internet: www.ust.is

Norway  County Governor’s Environmental Department
Internet: www.fylkesmannen.no

Åland  The Government of Åland
Phone: +358 18 25 000 – Internet: www.regeringen.ax

www.imo.org  International Maritime Organisation, with information about MARPOL Convention and other maritime regulations.

www.blueflag.org  Information about the blue flag programme presenting an exclusive eco-label to beaches, marinas and ports.

www.nordic-waste.info  Information about waste management in Nordic countries.