



# Update on London Protocol

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# London Convention and Protocol



- Marine Treaty - Global agreement regulating disposal of wastes and other matter at sea
- Convention 1972 (87 countries)
- Protocol 1996 – ratified March 2006 (45 countries as of Oct 2014)
- Annual Meeting of the Contracted Parties. Annual meeting of Scientific Group.
  
- How it works:
- Prohibition on dumping of all wastes, except for those listed in Annex 1, which need to be permitted under conditions in Annex 2.
  
- Annex 1: dredged material; sewage sludge; fish waste; vessels and platforms; inert, inorganic geological material; organic material of natural origin; bulky items primarily comprising unharmed materials, from small islands with no access to waste disposal options

# London Convention and Protocol and CCS



- Prohibited some CCS project configurations
- CO<sub>2</sub> Geological Storage Assessed by LC Scientific Group 2005/6
- 2006 - Risk Assessment Framework for CO<sub>2</sub>
- To allow prohibited CCS configurations – Protocol amendment adopted at 28th Consultative Meeting (LP1), 2 Nov 2006 - came into force 10 Feb 2007 to allow disposal in geological formations
- CO<sub>2</sub> Specific Guidelines (2007)

# London Protocol Transboundary



## London Protocol Article 6

### “EXPORT OF WASTES OR OTHER MATTER

*Contracting Parties shall not allow the export of wastes or other matter to other countries for dumping or incineration at sea.”*

- Prohibits transboundary transport of CO<sub>2</sub> for geological storage
- 2009 LP4 (30 Oct) - Amendment to allow CO<sub>2</sub> for storage was adopted by vote.
- Article 6 , new para 2 : ‘**Export of CO<sub>2</sub>** for disposal in accordance with Annex 1 may occur, provided an agreement or arrangement has been entered into **by countries concerned**’
- Agreement shall include : permitting responsibilities; for export to non-LP **Parties provisions equivalent to LP’s for issuing permits.**
- To come into force needs ratification by two thirds all Parties
- Transboundary movement of CO<sub>2</sub> streams after injection is not export in the sense of article 6, of the London Protocol.

# London Protocol Transboundary



## 2014 Update

- 2012 - Revised CO<sub>2</sub> Specific Guidelines approved and adopted at LC-34, Oct 29, London. Covering subsurface transboundary migration. Transboundary storage offshore now possible
- 2013 - **New 'Guidance on Export of CO<sub>2</sub> Streams for Disposal'** approved to cover responsibilities for **'arrangements or agreements'** for export
- All safeguards are now in place for transboundary CCS activity in the marine environment, including export.
- But – 2009 Transboundary amendment for CO<sub>2</sub> export needs 30 countries to ratify in order to come into force.
  - Only 2 so far - Norway, UK
  - 5 underway - Netherlands, Korea, Canada, Australia, Sweden
- So export of CO<sub>2</sub> still not permitted for offshore storage
  - unless for utilisation eg EOR.

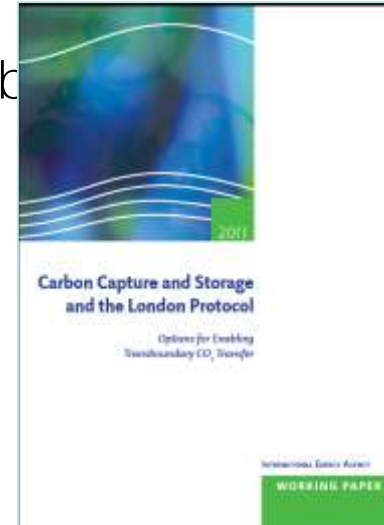


- Mr. Koji Sekimizu, the IMO Secretary-General in his opening speech to the 2013 LP meeting.
- *“The London Protocol currently is also the only global framework to regulate carbon capture and sequestration in sub-seabed **geological formations**.....*
- *However, it remains a serious concern that, to date, only two of the 43 London Protocol Parties have accepted the 2009 amendment, which is a long way from satisfying the entry-into-force requirements. The importance of securing its entry into force cannot be over-emphasized, if the threat of acidification of **the oceans from climate change is to be minimized.**”*

# IEA Report



- CCS and The London Protocol – Options for Enabling Transboundary CO<sub>2</sub> Transfer. IEA Working Paper 2011
- Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969)



## Options:

- Interpretive resolution
- Provisional application
- Additional treaty
- Modification of aspects of LP between 2 Parties
- Suspension of aspects of LP between 2 Parties
- Do CCS through non-Parties
- Presented at LC/LP 2011 – not well received



Thank you

Any Questions?