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BWM.3/Circ.3  
26 April 2022

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT  
OF SHIPS' BALLAST WATER AND SEDIMENTS, 2004**

**Communication received from the Government of Jamaica**

1 A communication has been received from the Government of Jamaica on behalf of the following Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention): Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, El Salvador, the Netherlands, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

2 The communication informs that the *Guidelines for Ballast Water Exchange and Sediment Management in Wider Caribbean Region Areas*, which had been disseminated by means of BWM.3/Circ.2, had been developed as an interim measure, are no longer applicable and are withdrawn.

3 At the request of the Administrations of the above-mentioned Contracting Parties, the communication annexed hereto is circulated to Member States for their information.

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## The Maritime Authority of Jamaica

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, The Office Centre Building, 12 Ocean Boulevard

Kingston, Jamaica, W.I.

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April 21, 2022

Mr. Arsenio Dominguez  
Director  
Marine Environment Division  
International Maritime Organization  
4 Albert Embankment  
London SE1 7SR  
United Kingdom

Dear Mr. Dominguez,

**Re: Withdrawal of Guidelines for Ballast Water Exchange and Sediments Management in Wider Caribbean Region Areas BWM.3/Circ.2**

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Reference is made to the BWM.3/Circ.2 dated June 5, 2018, containing “Guidelines for Ballast Water Exchange and Sediments Management in Wider Caribbean Region Areas” (The Guidelines).

The Guidelines were adopted by the Regional Task Force on the Ratification and Interpretation of the IMO Convention on Ballast Water Management on behalf of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention).

Additionally, the Guidelines were developed as an interim measure for ships conducting ballast water exchange when entering and operating in the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR) having regard to the low level of accession to Ballast Water Management Convention, 2004 for the majority of the States in the WCR at that time.

With the subsequent ratification and coming into force of the Ballast Water Management Convention for a number of States in the WCR, the Guidelines have been reviewed and found to be no longer relevant or applicable in relation to the implementation of the Convention in the region.

On behalf of the following Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention namely, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, El Salvador, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Panama, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad & Tobago it is requested that the Guidelines contained in BWM.3/Circ.2 be withdrawn.

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March 15, 2022

**Re: Withdrawal of Guidelines for Ballast Water Exchange and Sediments Management in Wider Caribbean Region Areas BWM.3/Circ.2**

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Additionally, it is requested that this information be communicated to Member States of the IMO for their information and action as appropriate.

Regards,



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Rear Admiral (Ret'd) Peter Brady  
**DIRECTOR GENERAL**