

Ref: T5/101

FUNDING AND CHARGING MECHANISMS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT
AND OPERATION OF RECEPTION FACILITIES

1 It will be recalled that the government of each Party to MARPOL 73/78 undertakes to ensure the provision of adequate reception facilities in its ports for the reception of waste generated on board ships. This Organization and the shipping community are concerned about the inadequacy and, indeed, total lack of reception facilities in many ports of Parties to MARPOL 73/78 who fail to comply with the requirements contained therein. In order to be of assistance to governments responsible for ensuring the provision of reception facilities as prescribed by MARPOL 73/78, this Organization published the Comprehensive Manual on Port Reception Facilities (1995). However, this manual does not extensively analyse lending mechanisms for the establishment and charging systems used in the operation of reception facilities.

2 When shore reception facilities are not available or when charges are excessive for use of reception facilities, it is likely that shipmasters may choose to illegally dispose of shipboard waste into the marine environment. To overcome this dilemma the economic aspects of the provision of reception facilities need to be addressed by the Organization. To expedite this important issue, SPI at its third session in October 1994, developed a set of requirements to be met by any scheme for the provision of reception facilities (SPI 3/19, Annex 3), and established a Correspondence Group under the leadership of Norway with specific terms of reference to further develop and propose a financing scheme in line with the requirements. The report of the Correspondence Group (MEPC 37/10/3), included one financing scheme option, was considered by the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) at its thirty-seventh session in September 1995. The MEPC noted the achievements made by SPI and the Correspondence Group, and amended the terms of reference (MEPC 37/22) with instructions that the Working Group on Ship/Port Interface (SPI), under the aegis of the Facilitation Committee (FAL), was to develop guidelines for financing mechanisms for the establishment and operation of port reception facilities. In developing the guidelines, SPI should be guided by the options for cost recovery set out in the Comprehensive Manual on Port Reception Facilities. Also, the Working Group should take into account the work of SPI 3 and the Correspondence Group, and such ongoing studies on this subject as are submitted by Member Governments, regional organizations, and other relevant bodies. The target completion date for this agenda item is 1997.

3 In order to achieve this task, the Facilitation Committee, at its twenty-fourth session in January 1996, approved the SPI Correspondence Group on financing schemes for reception facilities to continue its work intersessionally. To facilitate the work of the SPI Correspondence Group, Member Governments are requested to submit to the Organization not later than November 1996, via the reporting format at annex, data on financing schemes for reception facilities already in use or considered for future implementation. The information will be used to develop guidance on different options for the financing of reception facilities. It is not the intent of this request for information to survey all ports of the world as the volume of information would be overwhelming. Therefore, governments are requested to provide only an overview of the types of financing schemes that apply generally within their State. It is the intention of the Correspondence Group to make, with the approval of the relevant IMO bodies, a recommendation to incorporate these financing options as a supplement to the Comprehensive Manual on Port Reception Facilities.

4 Member Governments are invited to bring this circular to the attention of their Administrations.
