

**Ballast Water
Management Convention
and BWMS Code**
WITH GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

2018 Edition

Supplement
September 2025

The following amendments to regulations A-1 and B-2 of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 were adopted on 22 March 2024 by the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), at its eighty-first session, by resolution MEPC.383(81) and enter into force on 1 October 2025.

Resolution	Amends	Date of entry into force	Page
MEPC.383(81)	BWM Convention Annex <i>Regulations for the control and management of ships' ballast water and sediments</i> Section A – General provisions Regulation A-1 <i>Definitions</i> Section B – Management and control requirements for ships Regulation B-2 <i>Ballast water record book</i>	1 October 2025	2

Resolution MEPC.383(81)

adopted on 22 March 2024

International Convention for the Control
and Management of Ships' Ballast Water
and Sediments, 2004

Annex

*Regulations for the control and management
of ships' ballast water and sediments*

Section A – General provisions

Regulation A-1

Definitions

1 *A new paragraph 9 is inserted after existing paragraph 8, as follows:*

"9 Electronic record book means a device or system, approved by the Administration, used to electronically record the entries for each ballast water operation as required under this Convention in lieu of a hard copy record book."

Section B – Management and control requirements for ships

Regulation B-2

Ballast water record book

2 *Paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:*

"1 Each ship shall have on board a Ballast Water Record Book, that may be an electronic record book, or that may be integrated into another record book or system, and which shall at least contain the information specified in appendix II. Electronic record books shall be approved by

the Administration taking into account the guidelines developed by the Organization*.

* Refer to *Guidelines for the use of electronic record books under the BWM Convention* (resolution MEPC.372(80), as may be amended)."

3 *Paragraph 5 is replaced by the following:*

"5 Each operation concerning ballast water shall be fully recorded without delay in the Ballast Water Record Book. Each entry shall be signed by the officer in charge of the operation concerned and each completed page shall be signed by the master or, in the case of a group of electronic entries, shall be verified by the master in a timely manner. The entries in the Ballast Water Record Book shall be in a working language of the ship. If that language is not English, French or Spanish, the entries shall contain a translation into one of those languages. When entries in an official national language of the State whose flag the ship is entitled to fly are also used, these shall prevail in case of a dispute or discrepancy."