

ANNEX 5

DISCHARGES FROM VESSELS

A. Purpose

The purpose of this Annex is to contribute to the achievement of the General and Specific Objectives of this Agreement by preventing and controlling vessel discharges that are harmful to the quality of the Waters of the Great Lakes, through the adoption and implementation of regulations, programs, and other measures that facilitate coordinated and cooperative implementation and enforcement, where appropriate.

B. Programs and Other Measures

The Parties' responsibility for implementation of this Annex is expected to rest principally with Transport Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Canadian Coast Guard, the United States Coast Guard, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency and other agencies, as appropriate. These responsible authorities shall meet annually to consider issues of this Annex.

The Parties, in cooperation and consultation with State and Provincial Governments, Tribal Governments, First Nations, Métis, Municipal Governments, watershed management agencies, other local public agencies, and the Public, shall adopt programs and measures that:

1. protect the quality of the Waters of the Great Lakes;
2. apply environmental requirements and practices that are protective of the environment and human health, provided that the Parties shall implement this Agreement with due regard for securing the safety of a ship and the passengers and crew, and for saving life on the Waters of the Great Lakes;
3. take into account relevant standards and guidance issued under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization (IMO);