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**Special Areas under MARPOL**

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## **All Respectful ICS Customers and Surveyors**

With my gratitude, respectfully,  
Regarding to importance of Special Areas defined in MARPOL and also unavailability of a unified publication for introducing the graphical position of these areas, in this Technical Information the location of "Special Area" in accordance with MARPOL Convention is introduced and plotted.

The electronic file of this circular could be found at the following address:

\\server\ICS Organization\Convention  
andLegislationDepartment\Publications\Circ\  
2011

Also this Electronic File will be sent via email to all respectful ICS Customers and Surveyors.

**A. Jamaly**  
**Manager of Convention & Legislation**  
**Department**  
**Iranian Classification Society – ICS**

## **کلیه مشتریان و بازرسان محترم ICS**

با سلام

با توجه به اهمیت مناطق ویژه دریانوردی مطابق با الزامات کنوانسیون MARPOL و همچنین عدم در دسترس بودن نسخه یکپارچه مشمول تصاویر این مناطق، در این بخشنامه فنی موقعیت جغرافیایی «مناطق ویژه» مطابق با تعریف کنوانسیون MARPOL معرفی و به تصویر کشیده شده است.

فایل الکترونیک این بخشنامه در آدرس ذیل قابل دسترسی می باشد:

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همچنین نسخه الکترونیکی این سند از طریق پست الکترونیکی به کلیه مشتریان و بازرسان محترم موسسه ارسال می گردد.

**عبدالله جمالی**  
**مدیریت واحد کنوانسیون ها و مقررات دریایی**  
**موسسه رده بندی ایرانیان**



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## 1. Introduction

In different Annexes of MARPOL Convention, some areas are defined as “special areas” in which, for technical reasons relating to their oceanographical and ecological condition and to their sea traffic, the adoption of special mandatory methods for the prevention of sea pollution is required.

Under the Convention, these special areas are provided with a higher level of protection than other areas of the sea.

These Areas are introduced in:

- Annexes I Prevention of pollution by oil

- Annex II Control of pollution by noxious liquid substances
- Annex V Prevention of pollution by garbage from ships
- Annex VI Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships

## 2. MARPOL Annex I

Special Area is defined in Reg. 1.11 in 10 categories. The history of their adoption is presented in table 1.

More details on exact location of these areas are explained and figured in Annex 1 of this TI.

**Table 1. Special Areas as defined in MARPOL Annex I**

Area	Adopted	Date of EF <sup>(1)</sup>	Date of Eff. <sup>(2)</sup>
Mediterranean Sea	2 Nov 1973	2 Oct 1983	2 Oct 1983
Baltic Sea	2 Nov 1973	2 Oct 1983	2 Oct 1983
Black Sea	2 Nov 1973	2 Oct 1983	2 Oct 1983
Red Sea	2 Nov 1973	2 Oct 1983	<sup>(3)</sup>
"Gulfs" area	2 Nov 1973	2 Oct 1983	1 Aug 2008
Gulf of Aden	1 Dec 1987	1 Apr 1989	<sup>(3)</sup>
Antarctic area	16 Nov 1990	17 Mar 1992	17 Mar 1992
North West European Waters	25 Sept 1997	1 Feb 1999	1 Aug 1999
Oman area of the Arabian Sea	15 Oct 2004	1 Jan 2007	<sup>(3)</sup>
Southern South African waters	13 Oct 2006	1 Mar 2008	1 Aug 2008

(1) EF means Date of Entry into Force

(2) Eff. means In Effect from

(3) The Special Area requirements for these areas have not taken effect because of lack of notifications from MARPOL Parties whose coastlines border the relevant special areas on the existence of adequate reception facilities (regulations 38.6 of MARPOL Annex I and 5(4) of MARPOL Annex V).

## 3. MARPOL Annex II

Special Area is defined in Reg. 13.8. In this Annex Antarctic is defined as Special Area.

The details on adoption of this area for the annex are mentioned in table 2.

**Table 2. Special Area according to MARPOL Annex II**

Area	Adopted	Date of EF	Date of Eff.
Antarctic Area	30 Oct 92	1 Jul 94	1 Jul 94

More details on exact location of these areas are explained and figured in Annex 2 of this TI.

## 4. MARPOL Annex V

Special Areas in this Annex is defined in Reg. 5. The details on adoption of this area for the annex are mentioned in table 3.

More details on exact location of these areas are explained and figured in Annex 3 of this TI.

**Table 3. Special Areas as defined in MARPOL Annex V**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Date of EF<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Date of Eff.<sup>(2)</sup></b>
Mediterranean Sea	2 Nov 1973	31 Dec 1988	1 May 2009
Baltic Sea	2 Nov 1973	31 Dec 1988	1 Oct 1989
Black Sea	2 Nov 1973	31 Dec 1988	*
Red Sea	2 Nov 1973	31 Dec 1988	*
"Gulfs" area	2 Nov 1973	31 Dec 1988	1 Aug 2008
North Sea	17 Oct 1989	18 Feb 1991	18 Feb 1991
Antarctic area (south of latitude 60 degrees south)	16 Nov 1990	17 Mar 1992	17 Mar 1992
Wider Caribbean region including the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea	4 July 1991	4 Apr 1993	1 May 2011

(1), (2) and (3) as defined in table 1.

## **5. MARPOL Annex VI**

Special Areas in this Annex is defined in Reg. 2.8, Reg. 13 and Reg. 14. In this Annex, this area is introduced as "Emission Control Area (ECA)".

The details on adoption of this area for the annex are mentioned in table 4.

More details on exact location of these areas are explained and figured in Annex 4 of this TI.

**Table 4. Special Areas as defined in MARPOL Annex VI**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Date of EF<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Date of Eff.<sup>(2)</sup></b>
Baltic Sea (SOx)	26 Sept 1997	19 May 2005	19 May 2006
North Sea (SOx)	22 July 2005	22 Nov 2006	22 Nov 2007
North American (SOx and NOx)	26 March 2010	1 August 2011	1 August 2012

(1) and (2) as defined in table 1.

## **6. Reference**

- ü MARPOL Convention
- ü IMO Website
- ü [www.krs.co.kr](http://www.krs.co.kr)
- ü [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)
- ü [maps.google.com](http://maps.google.com)

## Annex 1 – Location of Special Areas under MARPOL Annex I

1. The Mediterranean Sea area means the Mediterranean Sea proper including the gulfs and seas therein with the boundary between the Mediterranean and the Black Sea constituted by the 41° N parallel and bounded to the west by the Straits of Gibraltar at the meridian of 005°36' W. (Picture 1)
2. The Baltic Sea area means the Baltic Sea proper with the Gulf of Bothnia, the Gulf of Finland and the entrance to the Baltic Sea bounded by the parallel of the Skaw in the Skagerrak at 57°44.8' N. (Picture 2)
3. The Black Sea area means the Black Sea proper with the boundary between the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea constituted by the parallel 41° N. (Picture 3)
4. the Red Sea area means the Red Sea proper including the Gulfs of Suez and Aqaba bounded at the south by the rhumb line between Ras si Ane (12°28.5' N, 043°19.6' E) and Husn Murad (12°40.4' N, 043°30.2' E). (Picture 4)
5. The Gulfs area means the sea area including Persian Gulf and Oman Sea, located north-west of the rhumb line between Ras al Hadd (22°30' N, 059°48' E) and Ras al Fasteh (25°04' N, 061° 25' E). (Picture 5)
6. The Gulf of Aden area means that part of the Gulf of Aden between the Red Sea and the Arabian Sea bounded to the west by the rhumb line between Ras si Ane (12°28.5'N, 043°19.6' E) and Husn Murad (12°40.4' N, 043°30.2' E) and to the east by the rhumb line between Ras Asir (11°50' N, 051°16.9' E) and the Ras Fartak (15°35' N, 052°13.8' E). (Picture 6)
7. The Antarctic area means the sea area south of latitude 60°S. (Picture 7)
8. The North West European waters include the North Sea and its approaches, the Irish Sea and its approaches, the Celtic Sea, the English Channel and its approaches and part of the North East Atlantic immediately to the west of Ireland. The area is bounded by lines joining the following points (Picture 8):

- 48° 27' N on the French coast	- 62° N; 003° W
- 48° 27' N; 006° 25' W	- 62° N on the Norwegian coast
- 49° 52' N; 007° 44' W	- 57° 44.8' N on the Danish and
- 50° 30' N; 012° W	Swedish coasts
- 56° 30' N; 012° W	
9. The Oman area of the Arabian Sea means the sea area enclosed by the following coordinates (Picture 9):

- 22° 30.00' N; 059° 48.00' E	- 18° 49.92' N; 062° 02.94' E
- 23° 47.27' N; 060° 35.73' E	- 17° 44.36' N; 061° 05.53' E
- 22° 40.62' N; 062° 25.29' E	- 16° 43.71' N; 060° 25.62' E
- 21° 47.40' N; 063° 22.22' E	- 16° 03.90' N; 059° 32.24' E
- 20° 30.37' N; 062° 52.41' E	- 15° 15.20' N; 058° 58.52' E
- 19° 45.90' N; 062° 25.97' E	- 14° 36.93' N; 058° 10.23' E

- |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| - 14° 18.93' N; 057° 27.03' E | - 14° 46.21' N; 054° 08.56' E |
| - 14° 11.53' N; 056° 53.75' E | - 15° 20.74' N; 053° 38.33' E |
| - 13° 53.80' N; 056° 19.24' E | - 15° 48.69' N; 053° 32.07' E |
| - 13° 45.86' N; 055° 54.53' E | - 16° 23.02' N; 053° 14.82' E |
| - 14° 27.38' N; 054° 51.42' E | - 16° 39.06' N; 053° 06.52' E |
| - 14° 40.10' N; 054° 27.35' E |                               |

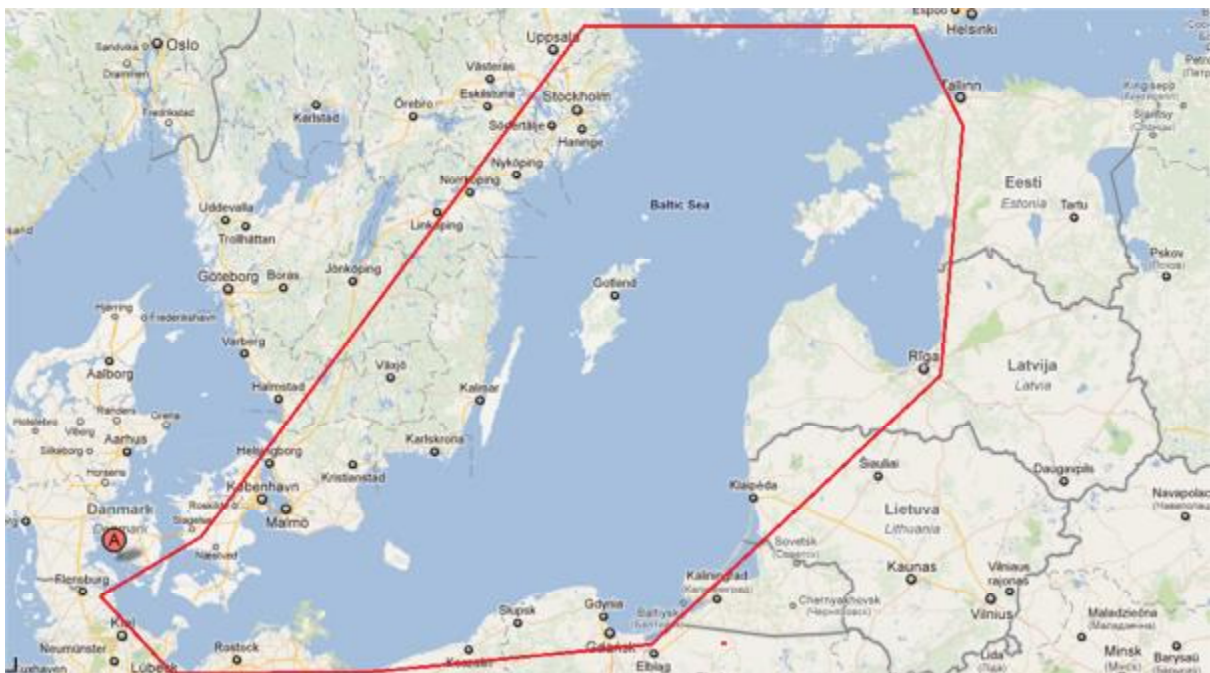
10. The Southern South African waters means the sea area enclosed by the following coordinates (Picture 10):

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| - 31° 14' S; 017° 50' E | - 36° 00' S; 022° 30' E |
| - 31° 30' S; 017° 12' E | - 35° 14' S; 022° 54' E |
| - 32° 00' S; 017° 06' E | - 34° 30' S; 026° 00' E |
| - 32° 32' S; 016° 52' E | - 33° 48' S; 027° 25' E |
| - 34° 06' S; 017° 24' E | - 33° 27' S; 027° 12' E |
| - 36° 58' S; 020° 54' E |                         |

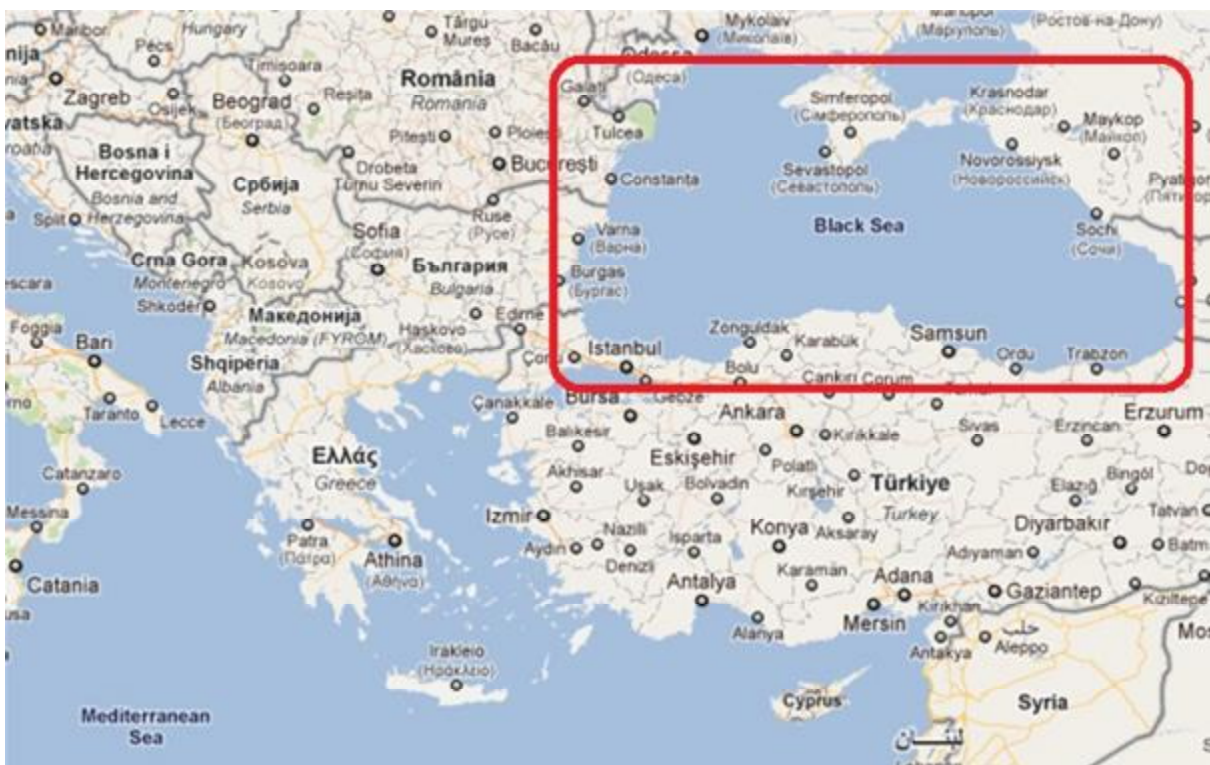
Finally in accordance with the above mentioned areas, the special areas under MARPOL Annex I are presented in Picture 11.



**Picture 1. Mediterranean Sea area defined under MARPOL Annex I**



Picture 2. Baltic Sea area defined under MARPOL Annex I



Picture 3. Black Sea area defined under MARPOL Annex I





Picture 4. Red Sea area defined under MARPOL Annex I



Picture 5. Gulf area defined under MARPOL Annex I





Picture 6. Gulf of Aden area defined under MARPOL Annex I



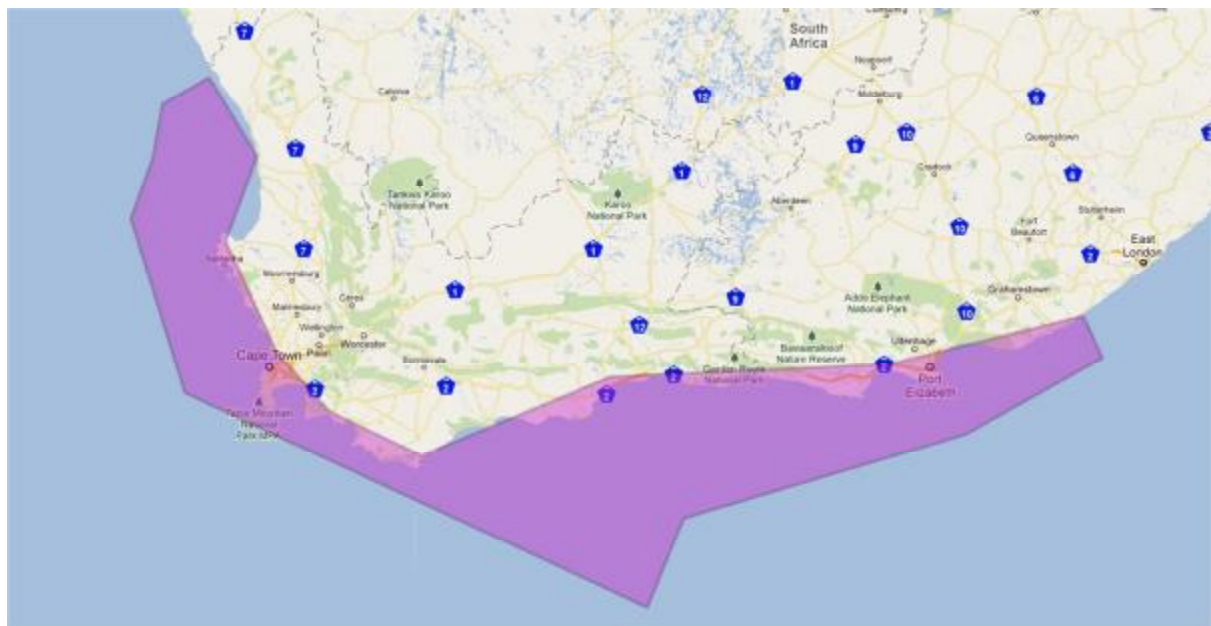
Picture 7. Antarctica area defined under MARPOL Annex I



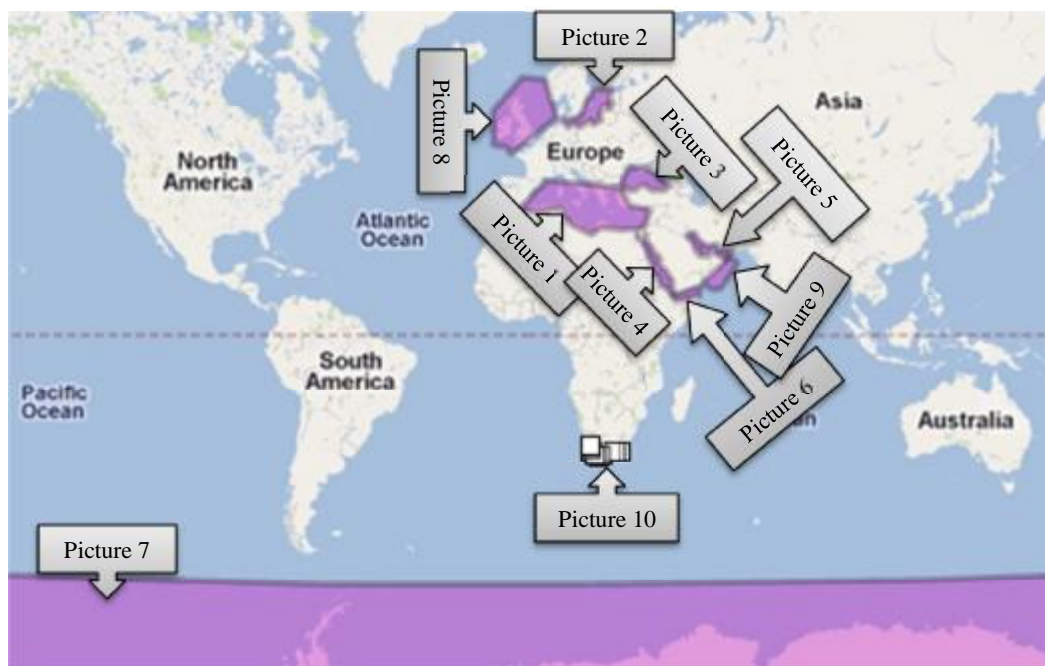
Picture 8. North Sea area defined under MARPOL Annex I



Picture 9. Oman area defined under MARPOL Annex I



**Picture 10. Southern South African waters defined under MARPOL Annex I**



**Picture 11. Special Areas defined under MARPOL Annex I**



## **Annex 2 – Location of Special Areas under MARPOL Annex II**

1. Antarctic Area means the sea area south of latitude 60°S (Picture 12).



**Picture 12. Antarctica area defined under MARPOL Annex II**

### **Annex 3 – Location of Special Areas under MARPOL Annex V**

1. The Mediterranean Sea area means the Mediterranean Sea proper including the gulfs and seas therein with the boundary between the Mediterranean and the Black Sea constituted by the 41° N parallel and bounded to the west by the Straits of Gibraltar at the meridian of 005°36' W. (Picture 1)
2. The Baltic Sea area means the Baltic Sea proper with the Gulf of Bothnia, the Gulf of Finland and the entrance to the Baltic Sea bounded by the parallel of the Skaw in the Skagerrak at 57°44.8' N. (Picture 2)
3. The Black Sea area means the Black Sea proper with the boundary between the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea constituted by the parallel 41° N. (Picture 3)
4. the Red Sea area means the Red Sea proper including the Gulfs of Suez and Aqaba bounded at the south by the rhumb line between Ras si Ane (12°28.5' N, 043°19.6' E) and Husn Murad (12°40.4' N, 043°30.2' E). (Picture 4)
5. The Gulfs area means the sea area including Persian Gulf and Oman Sea, located north-west of the rhumb line between Ras al Hadd (22°30' N, 059°48' E) and Ras al Fasteh (25°04' N, 061° 25' E). (Picture 5)
6. The North Sea area means the North Sea proper, including seas therein the boundary between (Picture 13):
  - (i) The North Sea southwards of latitude 62° N and eastwards of longitude 4°W ;
  - (ii) The Skagerrak, the southern limit of which is determined east of the Skaw by latitude 57°44.8' N; and
  - (iii) The English Channel and its approaches eastwards of longitude 5°W and northward of latitude 48°30'N.
7. Antarctic Area means the sea area south of latitude 60°S (Picture 7).
8. The Wider Caribbean Region, as defined in article 2, paragraph 1 of Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena de Indias,1983), means the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea proper including the bays and seas therein and that portion of the Atlantic Ocean within the boundary constituted by the 30°N parallel from Florida eastward to 77°30'W meridian, thence a rhumb line to the intersection of 20°N parallel and 59°W meridian, thence a rhumb line to the intersection of 7°20'N parallel and 50°W meridian thence a rhumb line drawn southwesterly to the eastern boundary French Guiana. (Picture 14)

Finally in accordance with the above mentioned areas, the special areas under MARPOL Annex V are presented in Picture 15.



Picture 13. North Sea Area defined under MARPOL Annex V



Picture 14. Wider Caribbean Area defined under MARPOL Annex V





#### Annex 4 – Location of Emission Control Area (ECA) under MARPOL Annex VI

1. MARPOL Annex VI Reg. 13:

For the purposes of this regulation, emission control areas shall be:

- The North American area, which means the area described by the coordinates provided in appendix VII to this Annex (Picture 16).



Picture 16. ECA defined under MARPOL Annex VI – Appendix VII

2. MARPOL Annex VI Reg. 14:

For the purpose of this regulation, emission control areas shall include:

- The Baltic Sea area as defined in regulation 1.11.2 of Annex I (Picture 2) and the North Sea as defined in Annex V (Picture 13).
- The North American area as described by the coordinates provided in appendix VII to this Annex (Picture 16).