

# Ship Recycling Convention

<b>Official reference</b>	Hong Kong International Convention for the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships	
<b>Official website</b>	www.imo.org	
<b>Relevant dates</b>	Document	15/05/2009
	Entry into force	14/04/2015
	Ratification by Flanders	13/11/2015
<b>Policy level</b>	International	
<b>Type of instrument</b>	Convention	
<b>Geographical reach</b>	Contracting Parties	
<b>International contact point</b>	International Maritime Organization (IMO)	
<b>Flemish ratification</b>	Decreet van 13 november 2015 houdende instemming met het Internationaal Verdrag van Hongkong voor het veilig en milieuvriendelijk recycleren van schepen, gedaan te Hongkong op 15 mei 2009	

## // abstract:

This convention aims to ensure that the recycling process of ships over 500 GT does not pose any risks to the human health and safety or to the environment. The convention regulates all aspects of the ship recycling process, including the fact that ships that need to be demolished can contain hazardous and harmful substances (asbestos, heavy metals, hydrocarbons, etc.).

The clauses of this conventions include:

- The design, construction, operation and manufacturing of ships in order to facilitate safe and environmentally friendly recycling, without compromising the ships' safety and efficient operation;
- The safe and environmentally friendly operation of ship recycling facilities (working conditions);
- The introduction of appropriate enforcement measures for ship recycling, including certificates and reporting requirements.

Ships that are ready to be recycled need to have on board an inventory of hazardous substances. The Annex to this convention offers a list of these hazardous substances. Ships will be regularly inspected in order to verify this inventory. This also includes a final inspection right before the recycling process.

Ship recycling yards need to propose a Ship Recycling Plan, to specify the way they recycle each individual ship. Contracting Parties have to take measures in order to ensure that the ship recycling facilities are in accordance with the convention.