The Management of Enclosed Coastal Water Bodies: The Need for a Framework for International Information Exchange

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Abstract:
The planning and management of lagoons and enclosed bays is practiced around the world and the number of programs is increasing yearly as more coastal nations become involved in the rapidly proliferating field of integrated coastal zone management. Although the preponderance of lagoon and enclosed bay planning and management efforts is concentrated in developing nations - particularly the United States - the practice is spreading out to developing nations. As the practice of planning and managing lagoons and enclosed bays continues to increase, there is the concomitant need to organize a system for the international exchange of information. It is particularly important that institutions which either are contemplating the initiation of a program or have recently embarked on program preparation, know and understand the lessons learned by the analogous lagoon and enclosed bay planning and management efforts around the world. This paper proposes a framework for the design of such an information exchange system. The proposed framework is based largely on the descriptions, analyses, and evaluations provided by the 19 papers in this volume.

Subject Headings: Coastal management | Sea water | Frames | Information management | Developing countries | Resource management | Information systems | Natural resources | United States

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Ballast Water Exchange and the need for a Ballast Water Management Plan. Ships need to carry ballast water for stability purposes, and to correct any problem in list, trim, etc. Thus before entering into the waters of any coastal state, ballast water exchange has to be done in mid-ocean or at least 200 nautical miles from shore and at a location where the water depth is at least 200 meters or more. There are three different methods of ballast water exchange: Safety restrictions: It should tell about the dangers of enclosed space entries, danger of blocked air vents and other safety instructions. Description of the methods used on board: It should explain in detail the method of ballast water exchange and treatments (in emergency) used in board. (For a systematic exposition of the whole body of international environmental law, see Kiss and Shelton 1991; Birnie and Boyle 1992. and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the East African Region (Nairobi, 21 June 1985); 2 protocols in 1985); and the South Pacific (Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region, (Noumea, 24 November 1986); 2 protocols in 1986)—with another six or so in various stages of planning. zone management, water resources and agriculture and for protection and The 1992 Helsinki Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes seeks to establish cooperative frameworks for joint monitoring.