



Circular

Marine Environment Protection Authority of Sri Lanka



Waste Reception Service Circular No.01/MEPA/WRS/2025

Data - 15th August 2025

Issued by: Marine Environment Protection Authority of Sri Lanka (Established under Marine Pollution Prevention Act No. 35 of 2008 of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka)

To: Shipping Agents, All Shipping Companies, Masters of Vessels calling to Ports in Sri Lanka

SUBJECT: MANDATORY SEPARATE PACKING AND STORAGE OF FOOD WASTE PRIOR TO DELIVERY TO RECEPTION FACILITIES

All ships calling at Sri Lankan ports are hereby informed that, with immediate effect, **all food waste intended to be discharged to reception facilities must be packed and stored separately** from other types of ship-generated waste. This requirement is enforced in line with MARPOL Annex V provisions and national waste management practices to **prevent the spreading of contaminants, pests, and diseases**, and to facilitate the hygienic and safe handling of waste by reception service providers.

Requirements:

1. **Food waste shall be packed separately** in durable, sealed, and leak-proof bags or containers.
2. Each package must be clearly marked as "**FOOD WASTE**".
3. **Food waste must be kept segregated onboard** and not mixed with other waste types such as plastics, paper, or oily waste.
4. Discharge of mixed or improperly packed waste may result in rejection by the reception facility or regulatory penalties.

Shipowners, operators, masters, and agents are requested to ensure strict compliance with this requirement. Non-compliance may result in delays, additional costs, or enforcement actions under the Marine Pollution Prevention Act No.35 of 2008.

For further information or clarification, please contact:

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Your cooperation in protecting Sri Lanka's marine environment is greatly appreciated.

K.V.R.S. Gunasekara

Chairman

Marine Environment Protection Authority