

# Recent Developments International Marine Treaties

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# Overview

- CCS impacts on marine environment
- Regulatory framework under
  - London Convention & Protocol
  - OSPAR
- Barriers to CCS projects?
- Update on recent developments

# London Convention & Protocol

- Global agreement regulating dumping of wastes and other matter at sea
- Dumping widely defined to include any deliberate disposal(storage) at sea of wastes or other matter
- Cannot dump any wastes except for those listed in the annex – CO<sub>2</sub> is not listed
- Number of exceptions exist e.g.
  - Placement not disposal
  - Disposal related to seabed mineral exploitation

# London – developments

- 2004 Consultative Meeting
- Lots of work since on technical and legal side
- 27<sup>th</sup> CM (2005):
  - Acknowledged that CCS has a role in abating climate change and ocean acidification
  - Recognised differing interpretations of Convention/Protocol
  - How best to facilitate/regulate

# London – Working Group 06

- Intersessional Legal & Technical WGs
- Focus on the **Protocol** (now in force)
- Interpretative declaration not sufficient
- Need to regulate as well as facilitate
- Amend Protocol annex
- ‘trace contaminants’

# London – proposed amendment

- Proposed amendment
  - Adds CO<sub>2</sub> to annex so allowing it to be dumped
  - Subject to certain conditions including that:
    - Sub-seabed geological formations (not water column)
    - Overwhelmingly CO<sub>2</sub>
    - No added wastes
- October 06 Consultative Meeting
- Annex 2, Risk Framework and Waste Assessment Guidelines

# OSPAR

- Regional Convention – NE Atlantic
- Similar to London, although some important differences
- Jurists Linguists paper 2004
- Scientific work
- OSPAR Commission 2006?

# Conclusions

- London Protocol may soon not be a barrier to CCS?
- Robust marine framework?
- FCCC and London work together?



