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IMO Prepares to Finalize Decarbonization Framework That Could Reshape Global Shipping

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is preparing to finalize crucial greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction measures at its upcoming Marine Environment Protection Committee meeting (MEPC 83) in London.

The high-stakes meeting, scheduled for April 7 to 11, follows intensive preparatory work by the Intersessional Working Group on GHG Emissions (ISWG-GHG 19), which concluded on April 1st with participation from approximately 1,000 delegates.

At the heart of the discussions is the IMO Net-Zero Framework, which will introduce amendments to MARPOL Annex VI. The framework encompasses two key components: a technical element featuring a goal-based marine fuel standard to reduce fuel GHG intensity, and an economic element implementing a maritime GHG emissions pricing mechanism.

"The 2023 IMO GHG Strategy commits Member States to adopting new mid-term measures to reduce GHG emissions from ships in late 2025," the IMO said in a statement.

Read more in an article from gCaptain.

International Business/Government

Stellantis Pauses Work at Canada, Mexico Plants

Stellantis NV is temporarily halting work at factories in Canada and Mexico as U.S. tariffs begin to impact operations across the automotive industry.

The owner of Jeep and Ram brands will pause its Windsor, Ontario, plant for two weeks beginning April 7, the company said April 3. It wasn't immediately clear how long the Mexico operations would be affected.

The move will affect employees at "several" of the company's U.S. powertrain and stamping facilities that support the Canada and Mexico operations.

The production changes are some of the first concrete effects from President Donald Trump's decision to impose 25% tariffs on auto imports, which went into effect April 3.

Read more in an <u>article from Transport Topics</u>.

Carney Hits Back at Trump's Auto Tariffs, Warns U.S. Trade Action Will 'Rupture the Global Economy'

Prime Minister Mark Carney said Thursday U.S. President Donald Trump's move to levy tariffs on virtually every country will "rupture the global economy," torpedo economic growth and prompt devastating consequences for workers and businesses in this country and around the world.

Carney said Trump's tariffs against Canadian goods are "unjustified, unwarranted and, in our judgment, misguided," and the country must hit back with what he called "carefully calibrated and targeted countermeasures" to make it clear Canada will not stand for this sort of economic broadside.

The Liberal leader said the government will levy a tariff on U.S.-made vehicles that are not compliant with the Canada-U.S.-Mexico Agreement, to match what the Americans did to the Canadian auto industry Wednesday.

Read more in an article from CBC News.

U.S. Senate Adopts Resolution to Halt Tariffs on Canadian Imports, Unlikely to Pass in House of Representatives

The U.S. Senate approved a bipartisan measure late Wednesday aimed at blocking tariffs on imported goods from Canada.

The resolution, adopted by a 51 to 48 vote, would terminate President Donald Trump's February 1 emergency declaration on fentanyl trafficking, which the White House used to issue duties on Canadian imports. Four Republicans joined all Democrats in the Senate in voting for the measure.

The Senate's resolution is seen as largely symbolic. To become law, it would have to be passed by the Republican-controlled House of Representatives and then signed by Trump.

Read more in an article from FreightWaves.

U.S. Ending De Minimis Shipping from China in May, Other Countries at Risk

The U.S. de minimis exemption will no longer apply to products from China and Hong Kong starting next month, the White House announced Wednesday, and its elimination is slated for other countries soon.

On May 2, imported goods from China and Hong Kong that would historically qualify for the exemption will be subject to all applicable duties, as long as they did not enter the U.S. via the international postal network.

If they do enter via the postal system, a duty rate of either 30% of their value or \$25 per item will apply in lieu of any other fees. The \$25 charge will increase to \$50 per item after June 1. U.S. Customs and Border Protection may require postal packages to go through formal entry procedures, per the White House, in which case they will be subject to all applicable duties, taxes and fees.

Read more in an article from Supply Chain Dive.