

https://www.wto.org/spanish/news_s/news19_s/tbt_16nov19_s.htm

11. Republic of Korea - Ballast Water Management Act

The European Union raised concerns with Korea's requirements on certification of ballast water treatment systems (BWTS) for vessels registered under the Korean flag, in particular regarding the lack of recognition of tests performed on BWTS outside Korea. The certification requirements introduced by Korea create additional costs and administrative delays, with negative impact on the competitiveness of EU companies. The EU asked Korea to fully recognise all tests previously performed according to International Maritime Organization (IMO) requirements and the G8 guidelines. The EU also urged Korea to notify the measure to the TBT committee.

Korea said that domestic and foreign manufactured goods (including from the EU) are subject to the same requirements with respect to the certification of BWTS for vessels registered under the Korean flag. Korea said that the Act foresees the possibility of recognizing foreign BWTS certification systems as equal to the Korean system.