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The IMO pledges to assist in containing pollution from burnt-out container ship in Sri Lanka

The IMO has offered technical assistance to the authorities in Sri Lanka in order to contain any potential pollution that might leak from the container ship *X-Press Pearl*, which caught fire off the nation's coast and subsequently sank.

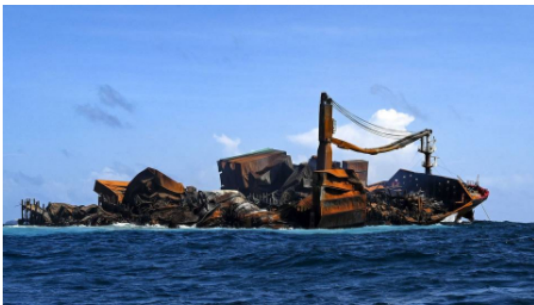


Photo: Ishara S. Kodikara/AFP/Ritzau Scanpix

BY ASTRID STURLASON
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The IMO is currently investigating possible aid solutions to help Sri Lanka with technical assistance and prevent the worst possible pollution leaking from container ship *X-Press Pearl*, which caught fire off the coast of the capital Colombo in late-May.

"IMO is liaising with its UN partners (UNEP and OCHA) and with the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), the regional organization for South Asia, with regards to possible assistance. IMO is also in communication with the Sri Lankan Ministry of Environment (MEPA) for any specific technical assistance that IMO may provide," says IMO Secretary General Kitack Lim in a press release.

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