

# Figures from Countdown Newsletter

## Questions facing the IMO before MEPC 85

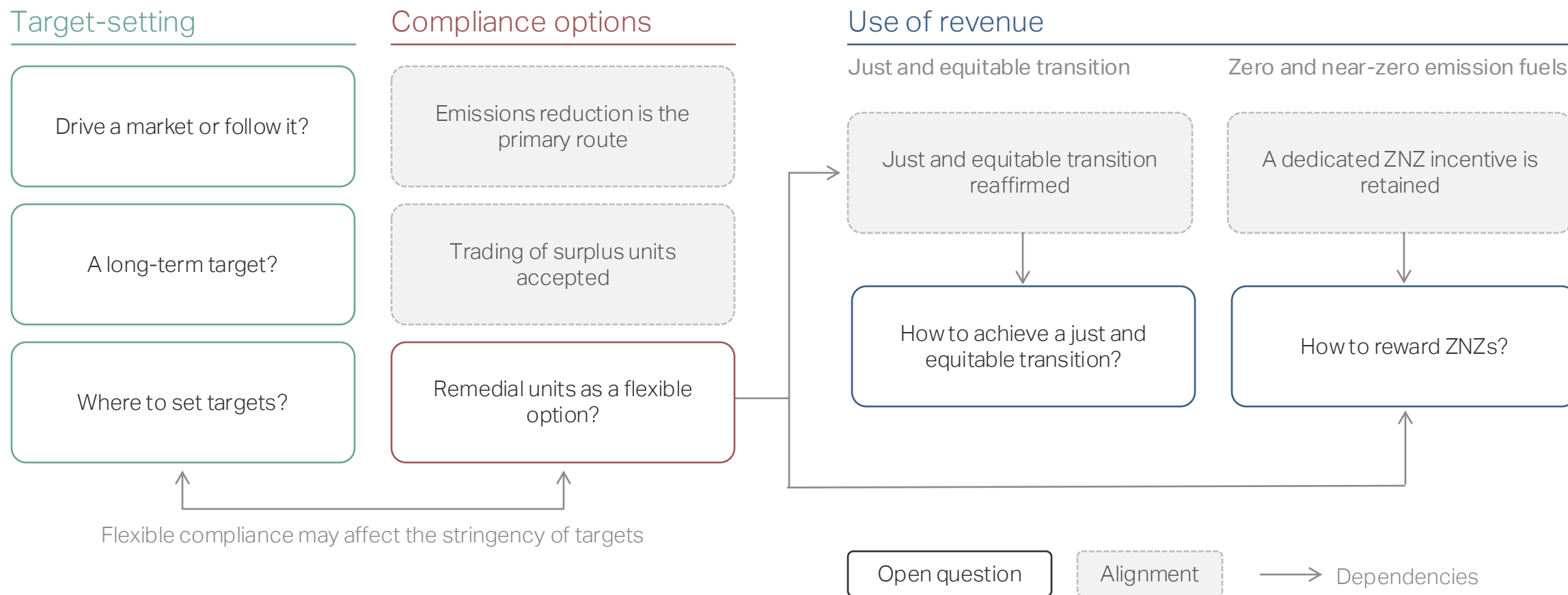
September 2026



**Mærsk Mc-Kinney Møller Center**  
for Zero Carbon Shipping

# Member States aligned on some topics, but still face an interconnected series of open questions before MEPC 85

Fig 1

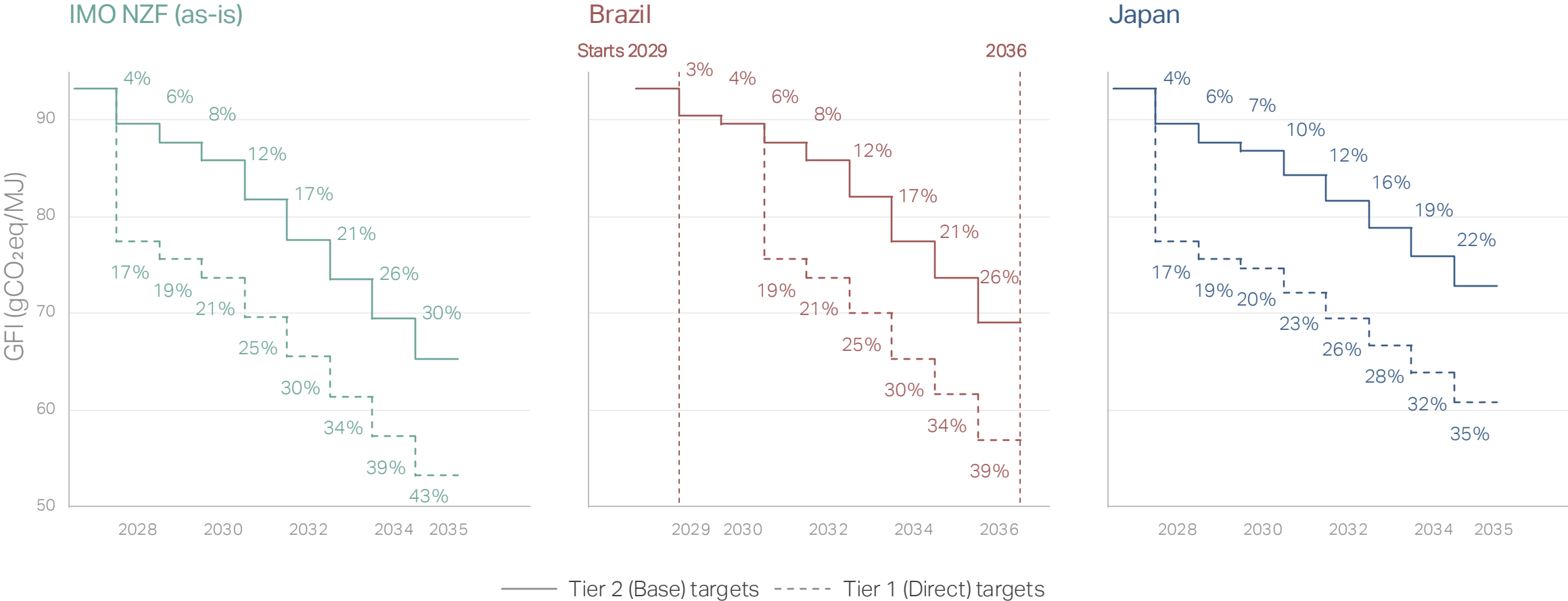


Based on the discussion at ISWG-GHG 22 (1–4 September 2026). **Note:** whether remedial units remain a flexible compliance option also determines the revenue available for a just and equitable transition and for rewarding zero and near-zero emission (ZNZ) fuels. ISWG-GHG = Intersessional Working Group on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships.

# Brazil and Japan propose to raise the targets set in the IMO NZF

Fig 2

## Proposed GHG fuel intensity (GFI) trajectories



Note: Brazil's phase-in begins in 2029 and runs to 2036; the IMO NZF as-is and Japan's proposal are specified from 2028 to 2035. The IMO NZF as-is and Brazil also set long-term targets that are not pictured here – a 65% reduction in 2040 (IMO NZF) and 70% in 2041 (Brazil). Percentage reductions are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Member States will aim to finalize a framework this year, with potential adoption in 2026 or 2027

Fig 3

Completed

Scheduled meetings

Potential future timeline

Sept 2026

ISWG-GHG 22

Member States discussed five proposals for amendments

Nov 2026

ISWG-GHG 23

In the upcoming intersessional meeting, Member States will aim to finalize a revised framework for approval

Dec 2026

MEPC 85 + MEPC ES.2\*

Member States will then formally consider a revised framework with potential adoption of Annex VI amendments

Oct 2027

MEPC 86\*

Reconsideration of amendments if delay in 2026



Derived from our internal understanding and analysis of the status of the IMO NZF

\*4 December has been set aside for a possible resumption of the extraordinary session, and October is a provisional date for MEPC 86

The Countdown newsletter covers the policies driving maritime decarbonization, from FuelEU to the IMO's GHG measures and energy efficiency regulations. Subscribe [here](#).

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