



IMCO

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
MARINE POLLUTION, 1973
Opening of the Conference

PARTICIPATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Note by the Secretariat

1. Under Article 48 of the IMCO Convention and in accordance with Rule 1 of the Rules Governing Relationship with non-Governmental International Organizations, an application for consultative status with IMCO has recently been submitted by the Friends of the Earth (FOE).^{*} At the request of the IMCO Council, this application was considered by the Maritime Safety Committee at its twenty-eighth session (17-21 September 1973). In view of the increasing importance of environmental matters, the Committee recommended that consultative status be granted to Friends of the Earth.
2. The application, together with the Committee's recommendation, will be considered by an extraordinary session of Council to be held on 12 November 1973, following which the matter will be finally decided by the eighth IMCO Assembly which meets from 12-23 November 1973. In the meantime, however, Friends of the Earth has requested permission to be represented by an Observer at the International Conference on Marine Pollution, 1973.
3. The Conference is invited to consider the request that the Friends of the Earth may be permitted to participate in the Conference as observers.

* Further information on the constitution and activities of Friends of the Earth may be obtained from the Secretariat on request.