



IMCO

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
MARINE POLLUTION, 1973
Committee II

Agenda item 2

CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT TEXT OF ANNEX I
OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE
PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973

Proposed Amendment to Regulation 12, paragraph (1)(a) of Annex I

Submitted by Jordan

Regulation 12(1)(a) should be amended to read as follows:

"For the purposes of this Annex special areas shall include the Mediterranean Sea, Baltic Sea, Black Sea, Red Sea and the Arabo-Persian Gulf."

Explanation

Annex I, Regulation 12 of the Convention lists the special areas which because of their particular features call for the adoption of mandatory measures to prevent them from being polluted. These are the Mediterranean Sea, the Black Sea and the Baltic Sea.

The Jordanian delegation considers that the Red Sea and the Arabo-Persian Gulf should be included among these special areas and should likewise be the subject of the mandatory measures provided and to be provided under Annex I, Regulation 12, owing to the density of international shipping in the Red Sea and in the Arabo-Persian Gulf.

In fact the Red Sea, linking as it does Europe with Asia and Africa is strictly speaking no more than one large semi-closed lake, and communicates with the Indian Ocean solely through the Bab El Mandeb Strait, itself a very narrow strip of water. As a result, pollution in it, due to the emission of residual substances by the thousands of ships, including oil tankers of various sizes which ply through it, can only be eliminated by the co-operation of all the delegations present here.

The protection of this arm of the sea, if we may so call it, from the daily increasing pollution, calls for its inclusion in the special areas.

To do this, both the method proposed for the Mediterranean Sea and that proposed for the Baltic Sea might be adopted.

As for the Arabo-Persian Gulf, the Jordanian delegation considers that special measures must be taken by this Conference to protect it too, from pollution.

A. it is the most important source for the supply of petroleum products in the world and therefore exposed to pollution by the thousands of tankers which use it on their way to the numerous loading terminals along its coasts, this Gulf is also entitled to be included in the special areas.
