



IMCO

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
MARINE POLLUTION, 1973
Committee II
Agenda item 5

CONSIDERATION OF ACTIVITIES OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL
MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION WHICH WOULD
CONTRIBUTE TO THE MINIMIZATION OF ACCIDENTAL
SPILLAGES OF OIL AND NOXIOUS SUBSTANCES
OTHER THAN OIL FROM SHIPS

Redraft of Resolution

INTENTIONAL POLLUTION OF THE SEA AND
ACCIDENTAL SPILLAGES

THE CONFERENCE,

NOTING that it was assigned the two following objectives by
Resolution A.237(VII), adopted by the Assembly of the Inter-Governmental
Maritime Consultative Organization on 12 October 1971,

- (1) the complete elimination of wilful and intentional pollution
of the sea by oil and noxious substances other than oil, and
- (2) the minimization of accidental spills;

these objectives to be achieved by 1975, if possible, but certainly by the
end of the decade;

RECOGNIZING that primarily, it has been as a result of extensive
preparatory work within the Organization that the Conference has been able
to prepare and open for signature the International Convention for the
Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973;

BEING AWARE that the said Convention adequately covers the problem of intentional pollution by oil, noxious liquid substances in bulk, harmful substances in packaged form or in cargo containers or portable tanks, sewage and garbage, whereas it deals with the problem of accidental pollution only to a limited extent, bearing in mind that many aspects of this problem are and will continue to be dealt with within the framework of other technical Conventions relating to maritime safety;

BEING AWARE ALSO of the close relationship between ship safety and the prevention of pollution from ships;

RECOGNIZING ALSO that considerable progress has been made by the Organization in furtherance of the second objective, by developing proposed international rules and standards directed towards, or contributing to, the prevention, mitigation and minimization of accidental pollution, including the prevention of accidents to ships, minimization of spillages after accident and mitigation of damages after spillages;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that a considerable amount of work in this field leading to the formulation of, and amendments to, conventions for which the Organization is depositary, and other instruments relating to ship safety and prevention of pollution, has yet to be accomplished;

RECOMMENDS that the Organization pursue and encourage studies relating to pollution abatement in the marine environment such as:

- (a) collection of scientific data on the identification of harmful substances transported by ships and their effect on the marine environment;
- (b) collection of ship casualty statistics, particularly including casualties resulting in the pollution of the marine environment;
- (c) analysis of such casualty data including the interrelationship of average tanker size and age with incidents and magnitude of pollution casualties;

RECOMMENDS FURTHER that the Organization continue its work with a high priority on the development of measures for the minimization of accidental spillages, particularly those relating to:

- (a) Prevention of accidents to ships including:
 - (i) safe navigational procedures and traffic separation schemes for the prevention of collisions, strandings and groundings, this to include the ultimate development of international standards for navigational aids;
 - (ii) watchkeeping practices in port and at sea and the training and certification of seamen;
 - (iii) provision of modern navigational and communications equipment;
 - (iv) the operational procedures during the transfer, loading and unloading of oil and other noxious substances;
 - (v) manoeuvrability and controllability of large ships;
 - (vi) construction and equipment of ships carrying oil or other noxious substances; and
 - (vii) safe carriage of dangerous goods in packages and containers;
- (b) Minimization of the risk of escape of oil and other noxious substances in the event of maritime accidents including facilitation of transfer of cargo in the event of accidents;
- (c) Minimization of pollution damage to the marine environment including:
 - (i) study and development of new techniques and methods for cleaning, decomposing and recycling of hazardous substances carried by ships and other necessary steps;
 - (ii) technical study and development of devices and chemicals used in removing oil and other harmful substances discharged into the sea,

with a view to having appropriate action taken by way of the adoption and implementation at an early date of amendments to existing conventions relating to safety at sea and prevention of pollution or of new conventions as appropriate.
