



## IMCO

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
MARINE POLLUTION, 1973  
Committee I

### DRAFT TEXT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973

#### Text of Articles 1 and 2 as agreed by the Committee

#### Article 1

##### General Obligation under the Convention

- (1) The Contracting [States/Parties]\* undertake to give effect to the provisions of the present Convention and those Annexes thereto by which they are bound, in order to prevent the pollution of the marine environment by the discharge of harmful substances or effluents containing such substances in contravention of the Convention.
- (2) Unless expressly provided otherwise, a reference to the present Convention constitutes at the same time a reference to the Annexes.

#### Article 2

##### Definitions

For the purpose of the present Convention, unless expressly provided otherwise:

- (1) "Regulations" means the Regulations contained in the Annexes to the present Convention.

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\* This term will be decided after consideration of the concluding Articles of the Convention.

- (2) "Harmful substance" means any substance which, if introduced into the sea, is liable to create hazards to human health, to harm living resources and marine life, to damage amenities or to interfere with other legitimate uses of the sea, including any substance subject to control by the present Convention.
- (3) (a) "Discharge" in relation to harmful substances, or effluent containing these substances means any release howsoever caused from a ship and includes any escape, spilling, leaking, pumping, emitting or emptying.
- (b) "Discharge" does not include:
- (i) dumping within the meaning of the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter;
  - (ii) release of harmful substances directly arising from the exploration, exploitation and associated offshore processing of sea-bed mineral resources;
  - (iii) release of harmful substances intended to combat pollution, or for purposes of legitimate scientific research into pollution abatement or control.
- (4) "Ship" means a vessel of any type whatsoever and includes hydrofoil boats, air-cushion vehicles, submersibles, floating craft and fixed or floating platforms operating in the marine environment.
- (5) "Administration" means the Government of the State whose flag the ship is entitled to fly or under whose authority the ship is operating. With respect to fixed or floating platforms engaged in exploration and exploitation of the sea-bed and subsoil over which the coastal State exercises sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring it and exploiting its natural resources, the Administration is the Government of the coastal State concerned.
- (6) "Organization" means the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization.
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