



## IMCO

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MARINE POLLUTION, 1973

#### SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FOURTH PLENARY MEETING

held at Church House, Westminster, London, S.W.1,  
on 12 October, 1973 at 9.45 a.m.

President:	Mr. S. BHAVE (India)
Secretary-General:	Mr. Colin GOAD (Secretary-General of IMCO)
Executive Secretary:	Mr. A. SAVELIEV (IMCO Secretariat)

A list of participants is given in MP/CONF/INF.1/Rev.2 or subsequent revisions, if any.

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AGENDA ITEM 5 - APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF CREDENTIALS AND DRAFTING COMMITTEES (concluded)

The PRESIDENT recalled that the final composition of the Drafting Committee had not yet been decided (vide MF/CONF/SR.3). In the light of the unofficial consultations that had been held, he suggested that the Committee be composed of the following countries:

For Africa: Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria and Tanzania.

For Asia: Iran, Japan, Singapore and Sri Lanka.

For Latin America: Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and Uruguay.

For Western Europe and other countries: Canada, Norway and Spain.

For Eastern Europe: Poland.

The following countries would also be members of the Committee:

France, United Kingdom, United States of America and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. That made a total of 20 members instead of the 17 members previously contemplated.

Mr. YFURRIAGA (Spain), supported by Mr. MURRAY (Mexico), pointed out that the four last-mentioned countries should be placed in the geographical groupings to which they belonged, since there was no reason for the permanent members of the Security Council to be ex officio members of a Drafting Committee.

The PRESIDENT said that, in official documents, the practice had always been to classify members of the Committee in alphabetical order and not to group them geographically. He suggested that that practice should be followed again.

It was so decided.

Mr. BRUNER (Federal Republic of Germany) recalled that at the previous meeting he had stressed the need to appoint to the Drafting Committee as many bilingual representatives as possible. He wished to insist again on that point.

Mr. YTURRIAGA (Spain) did not think it was essential to adopt special provisions on the matter, since the Drafting Committee was composed of delegations and not individuals, and the delegations concerned would certainly include sufficient representatives who were conversant with both English and French.

The PRESIDENT proposed that the Conference should adopt the composition of the Drafting Committee according to the list which he had read out.

It was so decided.

Mr. YTURRIAGA (Spain) said that, according to Article 21 of the draft Convention, the Convention was to be established in a single copy in the English and French languages, both texts being equally authentic. There was also provision for official translations in the Russian and Spanish languages. The IMCO Secretariat had already drawn up a Spanish version of the draft Convention. The experts of the Spanish-speaking delegations on the Drafting Committee would be able to establish the translation of the definitive text of the Convention which would constitute the official translation to be deposited with the original, as provided in Article 21.

Mr. EL-SAMMAK (Arab Republic of Egypt) said that he would support the Spanish suggestion when the Conference considered Article 21.

Mr. MURRAY (Mexico) said that he would like the Drafting Committee to be able to work on a Spanish version of the draft Regulations.

The SECRETARY-GENERAL said that it might be difficult to comply with the Spanish representative's suggestion. The Secretariat would be happy if the Spanish-speaking delegations could help in drawing up the Spanish version of the Convention; but on the last day of the Conference, for practical reasons, only the Final Act would be ready in the four official languages. The Secretariat would pursue the matter and report to the next meeting.

The meeting rose at 10.05 a.m.