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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MARINE POLLUTION, 1973
Agenda item 7

CONSIDERATION OF A DRAFT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973

Statement by Canada in reply to an interpretive statement by the USSR on the meaning of the phrase "within the jurisdiction of any Party" in Article 4(2)

The Canadian delegation cannot accept the interpretive statement by the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the effect that the phrase "within the jurisdiction of any party" in Article 4(2) refers only to the territorial sea of such party and to a maximum distance of 12 miles. In accordance with Article 9(3) of the Convention, the term "jurisdiction" is to be "construed in the light of international law in force at the time of application or interpretation of the present Convention". No rule of existing international law, in the opinion of the Canadian delegation, supports the interpretation of the term "jurisdiction" advanced by the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.