The Italian delegation abstained from voting on Article 20. The Article was submitted 24 hours before the end of the Conference, although it contained obligations of a financial character. With regard to that particular point the Italian delegation was therefore unable to reply favourably as it would have desired.

Italy is, however, very favourably disposed towards the principle which the Article was intended to set up and, in particular, with regard to the construction of installations for the cleansing of the waters of tankers. The Italian delegation points out that the Italian authorities have already contacted the Mediterranean countries in case it should be necessary to provide technical or financial assistance for the construction of installations in the Mediterranean.