



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974

IMCO

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FOURTH MEETING

held at IMCO Headquarters, 104 Piccadilly, London, W.1,
on Tuesday, 29 October 1974 at 9.35 a.m.

President: Rear-Admiral R.Y. EDWARDS (USA)
Secretary-General: Mr. C.P. SRIVASTAVA (Secretary-General of IMCO)
Executive Secretary: Captain A. SAVELIEV (IMCO)

A list of participants is given in SOLAS/CONF/INF.1/Rev.1 and Corr.1 thereto.

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AGENDA ITEM 7 - CONSIDERATION OF A DRAFT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974 - CHAPTERS I, III - VIII (SOLAS/CONF/D/3; SOLAS/CONF/D/6-11) (continued)

The PRESIDENT said that the Drafting Committee had drawn up the final text of draft Chapters II-1 to VIII; Committee II was reviewing draft Chapters II-1 and II-2 (SOLAS/CONF/D/4 and D/5). He therefore proposed that the meeting should begin at Chapter III (SOLAS/CONF/D/6).

Chapter III (SOLAS/CONF/D/6)

Mr. ERIKSSON (Sweden), Chairman of Committee II, said that Chapter III had not given rise to any divergence of opinion in the Committee, which had taken the view that the questions raised with regard to lifeboat equipment and its standardization should be examined later in IMCO and that the desired changes could be made under the new amendment procedure.

Chapter III (SOLAS/CONF/D/6) was adopted.

Chapter IV (SOLAS/CONF/D/7)

Mr. ERIKSSON (Sweden), Chairman of Committee II, said that the Committee had approved Chapter IV on the understanding that Regulation 13 would be reconsidered later in IMCO.

Mr. UNKLES (Australia), Chairman of the Drafting Committee, pointed out that paragraph 29 would have to be reviewed in the light of the decision taken on units of measurement.

Chapter IV (SOLAS/CONF/D/7) was adopted subject to those reservations.

Chapter V (SOLAS/CONF/D/8)

Mr. ERIKSSON (Sweden), Chairman of Committee II, said that the Committee had approved Chapter V on the understanding that certain proposals to amend Regulation 8 would be considered later. Paragraph 10 would have to be reconsidered in the light of the decision on units of measurement.

Mr. TARDANA (Indonesia) said that, in Committee II, his delegation had proposed that in Regulation 8(b) the words "for establishing and adopting" should be replaced by "for advising and recommending", or at least that the phrase "and for recommending, if necessary" should be inserted after the word "adopting",

in order that a State should not be deprived of the right to adopt measures concerning routing and traffic schemes. Other delegations had proposed the deletion of the paragraph in question, a course which his delegation could support.

Mr. TONČIĆ (Yugoslavia) endorsed the Indonesian proposal.

Mr. ERIKSSON (Sweden), Chairman of Committee II, in reply to Mr. MITROPOULOS (Greece), said that the Committee, as its report would show, had agreed that the Indonesian proposal and the other proposals concerning Regulation 8 should be considered later in IMCO.

Mr. BARDANA (Indonesia) said that he would like the Conference to consider his proposal, since it was in line with the provisions of the Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972. He was prepared, however, to withdraw his suggestion for its immediate consideration if it were submitted later to the IMCO Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation.

The PRESIDENT suggested that the Conference adopt Chapter V on the understanding that the Indonesian proposal would be considered later in IMCO.

Chapter V (SOLAS/CONF/D/8) was adopted on that understanding.

Chapter VI (SOLAS/CONF/D/9)

Mr. ERIKSSON (Sweden), Chairman of Committee II, said that the Committee had unanimously approved Chapter VI subject to some minor corrections.

Chapter VI (SOLAS/CONF/D/9) was adopted.

Chapter VII (SOLAS/CONF/D/10)

Mr. ERIKSSON (Sweden), Chairman of Committee II, said that the Committee had approved Chapter VII but had subsequently reversed its decision that in the English text the term "flammable" should be used in place of the term "inflammable", since the latter appeared in the documents of all United Nations bodies, especially in connexion with the classification of dangerous goods. The Committee had accordingly decided that the term "inflammable" should be retained in Chapter VII, but with a note to the effect that it had the same meaning as the term "flammable".

The PRESIDENT suggested that the Conference adopt Chapter VII as proposed in SOLAS/CONF/D/10, subject to the change to paragraph 3 which had just been indicated by the Chairman of Committee II.

Chapter VII (SOLAS/CONF/D/10) as amended was adopted.

Chapter VIII (SOLAS/CONF/D/11)

Mr. ERIKSSON (Sweden), Chairman of Committee II, said that no amendment had been made to Chapter VIII except in respect of references to other Chapters. The Committee had agreed that Annex C, which related to Chapter VIII, should be retained with the date 1960 replaced by 1974.

The PRESIDENT proposed that, pending the Drafting Committee's decision on that point, the Conference adopt Chapter VIII as proposed in SOLAS/CONF/D/11 and defer a decision on Annex C.

On that understanding, Chapter VIII (SOLAS/CONF/D/11) was adopted.

Chapter I (SOLAS/CONF/D/3)

Mr. LONGE (Nigeria), Chairman of Committee I, said that the Committee had had no difficulty in approving Chapter I, subject to the deletion of any reference to "territory" in Regulation 2(d).

Mr. JACQUIER (France) suggested that the discussion of that point should be postponed until the Conference had taken a decision on the proposed deletion of Article XIII of the 1960 Convention, concerning territories.

It was so decided.

Mr. VAN DER WOUDE (Netherlands), referring to Regulation 2(h), said that the adjective "flammable" in the English version should be changed to "inflammable" and that the indefinite article "an" should be inserted before it.

Mr. UNKLES (Australia), speaking as Chairman of the Drafting Committee, asked the plenary meeting of the Conference to instruct the Drafting Committee as to whether, in the English version, the term "flammable" should be replaced by "inflammable" in Chapter VII only, or in all the Chapters.

Mr. ERIKSSON (Sweden), Chairman of Committee II, explained that his Committee had originally decided to use the word "flammable" in Chapter VII, but it had reversed that decision because "inflammable" was the term in general use.

Mr. GERYSZEWski (Poland) thought that the word "inflammable" should be used throughout the English version; it was regularly used by United Nations bodies in connexion with the transport of dangerous goods. His delegation strongly opposed its replacement by a different term.

Mr. MAJAS (Argentina) also thought that the word "inflammable" should be used, so as to avoid ambiguity.

Mr. ARCHER (UK) agreed with the two previous speakers.

Mr. ERIKSSON (Sweden) Chairman of Committee II, proposed that the term "inflammable" should be used throughout the English version of the Convention and that, the first time it appeared, a footnote should be inserted, as suggested by Committee II, explaining that "inflammable" and "flammable" were synonymous in English.

Mr. UNKLES (Australia) and Admiral BENKERT (USA) supported the Swedish proposal.

The Swedish proposal was adopted without objection.

Mr. ARCHER (UK) referring to Regulation 7(b) proposed the insertion of the word "protection", after the word "fire" in the ninth line of sub-paragraph (i) and the seventh line of sub-paragraph (ii). A similar drafting change should be made in the third line of Regulation 8.

Mr. MITROPOULOS (Greece) thought that, if the idea of fire protection was introduced, the phrase "Fire protection installations" should be used.

Mr. SALVESEN (Norway) while not objecting to the United Kingdom proposal, felt it unnecessary, since fire protection was covered by the provisions on inspection of the ship's structure at the beginning of the paragraph.

Mr. CHAFFAR (Pakistan) agreed.

The PRESIDENT, having consulted the Executive Secretary, said that the proposed amendment would be justified in Regulation 7 but not in Regulation 8, which dealt only with life-saving appliances.

Mr. ARCHER (UK) and Mr. MITROPOULOS (Greece) accepted that view.

The PRESIDENT suggested that the Conference adopt the United Kingdom proposal in respect of Regulation 7 only.

It was so decided.

Mr. MITROPOULOS (Greece) proposed the insertion of the word ", shapes", after the word "lights" in the sixteenth line of sub-paragraph (i) and the thirteenth line of sub-paragraph (ii) of Regulation 7(b).

Mr. MAJAS (Argentina) supported the proposal.

Mr. GRAVES (Canada) thought that the same addition should be made in Regulation 8.

The PRESIDENT said that the Greek and Canadian proposals were justified.

The proposals were adopted.

Mr. ELMONDSON (IMPA), speaking at the invitation of the President, suggested that, since the IMCO Assembly had approved the Maritime Safety Committee's recommendation on performance standards for mechanical pilot hoists (Resolution A.275(VIII)), the words "mechanical pilot hoists" might be inserted after the words "pilot ladders" in Regulation 7(b), sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii), and in Regulation 8.

The PRESIDENT observed that any amendment had to be proposed by a Government.

Mr. MITROPOULOS (Greece) put forward the IMPA Observer's suggestion on behalf of his own delegation.

Mr. SALVESEN (Norway) supported the Greek proposal and asked that the insertion in question be made throughout the new Convention.

The Greek proposal was adopted.

Mr. JACQUIER (France) pointed out a mistake in the French version of Regulation 12(b) (SOLAS/CONF/D/3) page 7), which mentioned the 1948 Convention instead of the 1960 Convention.

Mr. D'ANGELO (Italy) said that there was an omission in the French version: the last sentence of Regulation 7(ii) should mention "la présente Convention", in order to correspond to the English version.

The PRESIDENT said that the Secretariat would make the necessary corrections.

Mr. SAVELIEV (Executive Secretary) proposed that paragraph 13 of SOLAS/CONF/D/3 should be amended to read: "References to Chapter II are replaced by references to Chapter II-1 and/or Chapter II-2 as appropriate".

Mr. ERIKSSON (Sweden), Chairman of Committee II, did not think the proposed change would raise any difficulties.

Mr. GHAFAR (Pakistan) considered paragraph 13 superfluous, since Chapter II was never mentioned in isolation. He therefore proposed the deletion of the paragraph.

Mr. UNKLES (Australia), Chairman of the Drafting Committee, pointed out that SOLAS/CONF/D/3 dealt only with certain parts of Chapter I. The Executive Secretary's suggestion was justified in the context of Chapter I as a whole.

The PRESIDENT suggested that the Conference adopt the amendment read out by the Executive Secretary.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 11.45 a.m.