



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974

Committee I  
Agenda item 2

IMCO

CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT TEXT OF ARTICLES OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974

Submitted by the USSR Delegation

Article IX "Amendments" should be drafted as set out hereunder:

Article IX

Amendments

1. The present Convention may be amended by a procedure specified in the following paragraphs.
2. Any amendment proposed by a Contracting Government shall be submitted to the Organization and circulated by it to all Members of the Organization and all Contracting Governments at least six months prior to its consideration.
3. Any amendment proposed and circulated as above shall be submitted to the Maritime Safety Committee of the Organization for consideration and adoption when appropriate.
4. Contracting Governments, whether or not Members of the Organization, shall be entitled to participate in the proceedings of the Maritime Safety Committee.
5. Amendments adopted by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting in the Maritime Safety Committee including a two-thirds majority of present and voting Contracting Governments shall be communicated by the Organization to all Contracting Governments for acceptance.

6. An amendment shall be deemed to have been accepted in the following circumstances:
- (a) an amendment to an Article of the Convention or to Chapter I of the Annex to the Convention shall be deemed to have been accepted on the date on which it is accepted by two-thirds of the Contracting Governments;
  - (b) an amendment to the Annex to the Convention other than Chapter I shall be deemed to have been accepted at the end of one year from the date on which it is notified to Contracting Governments for acceptance, or at the end of a different period if determined by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting in the Maritime Safety Committee at the time of its adoption, unless within that period more than one-third of the Contracting Governments, /or Contracting Governments/ the combined merchant fleets of which constitute more than fifty per cent of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant fleet, notify the Organization that they object to the amendment;
  - (c) any Contracting Government may, before the date set for entry into force, give notice to the Organization that it exempts itself from giving effect to the amendment for a period not exceeding /two years/ from the date of entry into force of that amendment; provided that the effect of any such notification shall not be to extend the period for which a Government may delay giving effect to an amendment beyond /three years/ from the date on which the amendment is notified to Contracting Governments for acceptance, unless a two-thirds majority of those present and voting in the Maritime Safety Committee at the time of the adoption of the amendment decides that a different period may be authorised.
7. The amendment shall enter into force under the following conditions:
- (a) in the case of an amendment to an Article of the Convention or to Chapter I of the Annex to the Convention the amendment shall enter into force six months after the date of its acceptance with respect to the Contracting Governments which have accepted it;

- (b) in the case of an amendment to the Annex to the Convention other than Chapter I of the Annex to the Convention the amendment shall enter into force six months after its acceptance for all the Contracting Governments with the exception of those which, before the date of its entry into force, have made a declaration that they will accept it within the period determined under sub-paragraph 6(c).
8. A Contracting Government which has accepted an amendment to the Annex which has entered into force shall not be obliged to extend the benefit of the Convention in respect of the certificates to which the amendment relates to ships registered in the country of a Contracting Government which has not accepted the amendment.
9. Unless expressly provided otherwise, any amendment to the present Convention made under this Article, which relates to the structure of a ship, shall apply only to ships the keel of which is laid or which is at a similar stage of construction, on or after the date on which the amendment enters into force.
10. The Organization shall inform all Contracting Governments of any amendments which enter into force under this Article, together with the date on which each such amendment enters into force.
11. Any declaration of acceptance or of objection to an amendment under this Article shall be notified in writing to the Organization. The latter shall bring such notification and the date of its receipt to the notice of the Contracting Governments.
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