

CONVENING OF A CONFERENCE ON "TORREY CANYON" MATTERS  
RESOLUTION A.171 (ES.IV) adopted on 28 November 1968

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME  
CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION



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ASSEMBLY - 4th extraordinary session  
Agenda item 6

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THE ASSEMBLY,

RECOGNIZING the need to ensure that necessary measures are at all times taken to prevent, mitigate or eliminate pollution damage or the threat thereof arising from maritime casualties,

CONSIDERING it necessary that questions relating to liability for such pollution damage and insurance to cover such liability should be dealt with, as far as possible, on an international basis,

NOTING Article 3(b) of the Convention on the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization concerning the functions of the Organization with regard to the convening of international conferences to deal with questions involving shipping engaged in international trade,

HAVING CONSIDERED the Report of the Legal Committee on the work accomplished on the subject of pollution damage arising from maritime casualties and the recommendations of the Council thereon,

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RECORDS its appreciation to the Legal Committee for the work it has so far accomplished and requests the Legal Committee to continue its work in relation to those questions on which further work is required,

EXPRESSES its deep appreciation of the fruitful co-operation of the Comité Maritime International,

DECIDES to authorize the Secretary-General to convene an international conference for the purpose of adopting a convention or conventions on the subject of pollution damage arising from maritime casualties,

FURTHER DECIDES:

- (a) That there should be one conference to deal with the public and private law aspects of this question;
- (b) That the conference should be held from 10 to 28 November 1969;
- (c) To take advantage of the kind hospitality offered by the Government of Belgium and to convene the Conference in Brussels;
- (d) That, in accordance with past decisions of this Assembly, States Members of the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency or who are Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, together with observers from such governmental and non-governmental organizations as are normally present at conferences convened by IMCO, should be invited to the Conference;
- (e) That the invitation should be issued by the Organization and should contain suitable reference to the hospitality offered by the Government of Belgium;

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- (f) That the Secretary-General, after obtaining the advice of the Legal Committee and after consulting with the Government of Belgium, should plan the structure of the Conference, especially the number of Committees which will be working at any given time, so that appropriate recommendations may be made to the Conference at its opening;
- (g) That the Secretary-General should as soon as possible circulate to Governments for their comments the draft Articles and Protocol on Public Law matters and at the appropriate time similarly circulate the draft Articles on Private Law matters;
- (h) That the two sets of draft Articles and the comments of Governments thereon should together constitute the basic working documents for the Conference;

RECORDS its gratitude to the Governments of Belgium, Greece, Ireland and the United Kingdom for their kind offers of hospitality.

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