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CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION



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ASSEMBLY - 6th session  
Agenda item 12

PROCEDURE FOR AMENDING AND BRINGING  
UP TO DATE THE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF SIGNALS

RESOLUTION A.187(VI)  
adopted on 28 October 1969

THE ASSEMBLY,

NOTING Article 16(i) of the IMCO Convention concerning the  
functions of the Assembly,

RECALLING its previous Resolutions on the International  
Code of Signals (A.80(IV) and A.113(V)),

HAVING CONSIDERED the Recommendations of the Maritime  
Safety Committee with regard to establishing a procedure for  
amending and bringing up to date the International Code of  
Signals,

DECIDES

- (a) to adopt the procedure recommended by the Committee  
regarding this subject, the text of which is set out  
in the Annex to this Resolution,

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- (b) to recommend that Governments
  - (i) encourage all concerned to use the Code at every appropriate opportunity with a view to gaining experience on its usefulness and effectiveness,
  - (ii) are invited to supply, in due course, comments by users for further evaluation.

#### ANNEX

#### PROCEDURE FOR AMENDING AND BRINGING UP TO DATE THE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF SIGNALS

- (a) The Committee should receive and evaluate, through its subsidiary bodies, proposals for amendments and/or additions to the International Code of Signals, submitted as appropriate.
- (b) Such proposals should be examined collectively, rather than individually when, in the Committee's judgment, they are sufficient or of such importance as to warrant examination.
- (c) Amendments to the Code should normally come into force at intervals of approximately five years. When, however, amendments are of a very important nature and/or require urgent action, the period may be shortened to two years. Amendments adopted by the Committee will be notified to all concerned, will provide at least a twelve months' notification period and will come into force on 1 January of the following year.

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(d) The Committee which has already been authorized to amend the Code as a result of any future radio conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Resolution A.80(IV)) should seek equally rapid treatment of other parts of the Code if this becomes necessary.

(e) The active participation of the appropriate Specialized Agencies and other bodies concerned should be sought according to the nature of the proposed amendments.

(f) When the proposals for amendment have been examined in substance the Committee would entrust the Sub-Committee on Radiocommunications with the ensuing editorial tasks including the choice of letter combinations for new signals, since all the two-letter combinations of the Code have been used.

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