

APPROVAL OF THE RULES FOR THE ADMISSION TO CONSULTATIVE STATUS OF
NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
RESOLUTION A.31(II) adopted on 13 April 1961

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION

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THE ASSEMBLY,

TAKING NOTE of Part XII of the Convention, entitled
"Relationship with the United Nations and other organizations", and
in particular the provisions of Article 48,

NOTING FURTHER that Article 26 stipulates that all agreements
or arrangements made by the Council in accordance with the provisions
of Part XII shall be subject to the approval of the Assembly,

HAVING CONSIDERED the draft rules drawn up by the Council in
implementation of Resolution A.II(1)B and in accordance with
Article 26 of the Convention,

APPROVES the rules governing the admission of non-governmental
international organizations to consultative status, the text of
which is at Annex.

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RULES GOVERNING RELATIONSHIP WITH
NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rule 1

Subject to approval by the Assembly, the Council may grant consultative status to any non-governmental international organization which is able to make a substantial contribution to the work of IMCO.

PURPOSES OF CONSULTATIVE STATUS

Rule 2

Decisions to grant consultative status to any non-governmental international organization shall be based on the principles that the sole purposes for entering into consultative status shall be:

- (a) to enable IMCO to obtain information or expert advice from non-governmental international organizations with special knowledge in a particular sector of the Organization's activities, and
- (b) to enable such non-governmental international organizations representing large groups whose activities have an important and direct bearing on the work of IMCO, to express their points of view to the Organizations.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

Rule 3

Before granting consultative status to any non-governmental international organization, the Council must be satisfied that:

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- (a) the activity of the non-governmental international organization concerned is related directly to the purposes of IMCO, as defined in Article 1 of the Convention, and
- (b) the objectives and functions of the non-governmental international organization are fully in harmony with the spirit, functions and principles of IMCO.

GENERAL UNDERTAKING BY THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

Rule 4

Consultative status may not be granted to a non-governmental international organization unless it undertakes to support the activities of IMCO and to promote the dissemination of its principles and work, bearing in mind the objectives and functions of IMCO on the one hand, and the competence and activities of the non-governmental international organization on the other.

CONSTITUTION AND STRUCTURE OF THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

Rule 5

Consultative status may not be granted to any non-governmental international organization unless it has a permanent headquarters, a governing body and an executive officer. It must also be authorized under its constitution to speak for its members through accredited representatives.

PRIVILEGES CONFERRED BY CONSULTATIVE STATUS

Rule 6

The granting of consultative status to a non-governmental international organization shall confer the following privileges on that organization:

- (a) the right to receive the provisional agenda for sessions of the Assembly, the Council, the Maritime Safety Committee and for any other designated technical organ of IMCO;

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- (b) the right to submit written statements on items of the agenda of the Assembly, the Council, the Maritime Safety Committee and other technical organs of IMCO which are of interest to the non-governmental international organizations concerned after appropriate consultations with the Secretary-General, provided that such submission does not impede the smooth functioning of the IMCO organ involved. The non-governmental international organizations concerned shall give due consideration to any comment which the Secretary-General may make in the course of such consultations before transmitting the statement in final form;
- (c) the right to be represented by an observer at plenary sessions of the Assembly and, on the invitation of the Secretary-General, at those meetings during sessions of the Council, the Maritime Safety Committee and of the other technical organs of IMCO at which matters of special interest to the non-governmental international organizations concerned are to be considered;
- (d) the right to receive the texts of resolutions adopted by the Assembly and, at the discretion of the Secretary-General, of recommendations made by the Council and the Maritime Safety Committee or other organs of IMCO on matters of special interest to the non-governmental international organizations concerned and of the appropriate supporting documents.

STATUS AT IMCO MEETINGS

Rule 7

Normally one observer from each non-governmental international organization shall be admitted to any session or meeting. Such observer shall have no voting rights but may, on the invitation of

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the Chairman and with the approval of the body concerned, speak on any item of the agenda of special interest to the non-governmental international organization of which he is the representative.

GRANTING OF RECIPROCAL PRIVILEGES TO IMCO

Rule 8

Any non-governmental organization to which consultative status is granted shall keep the Secretary-General currently informed of those aspects of its own activities which are likely to be of interest to IMCO and accord to IMCO privileges corresponding to those which are granted to it by the Organization.

CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

Rule 9

The Council shall only consider applications for consultative status from non-governmental international organizations once a year and shall not consider re-applications from such organizations until at least two years have elapsed since the Council took a decision on the original application.

PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE LIST OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rule 10

The Council shall review from time to time the list of non-governmental international organizations to which they have granted consultative status, in order to determine whether the continuance of their status in any particular case is necessary and desirable and shall report to the Assembly accordingly.

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