

RESOLUTION A.503(XII) adopted on 20 November 1981  
ACCEPTANCE OF THE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VII OF THE CONVENTION ON FACILITATION  
OF INTERNATIONAL MARITIME TRAFFIC, 1965

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME  
CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION



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THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Article 16 of the Convention on the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization,

RECALLING ALSO that the amendment to Article VII of the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic, 1965, was adopted eight years ago on 19 November 1973 and is not yet in force,

RECALLING FURTHER that the Assembly itself has on several occasions adopted resolutions inviting Governments, Contracting Parties to the 1965 Facilitation Convention, to use their best endeavours to obtain acceptance of the amended text of Article VII thereof,

APPRECIATING that the Secretary-General has done everything possible to impress upon Governments, Contracting Parties to the Convention, the importance of bringing the amended text of Article VII into force,

BEING CONCERNED that this long outstanding matter could begin to reflect on IMCO,

POINTING OUT that the bringing into force of the amendment procedure contained in the amended Article VII will not make the provisions of the Annex to the Convention mandatory for Governments, Contracting Parties thereto, as, under its Article VIII, they may notify the Secretary-General of any difference between their national requirements and practices and the Standards (and Recommended Practices) contained in that Annex,

NOTING the deep concern of Member Governments, as consistently expressed in the reports of the Facilitation Committee, to improve international co-operation, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, in the formulation and application of measures for the facilitation of maritime traffic from which all shipping interests stand to benefit,

A XII/Res.503

- 2 -

RECOGNIZING WITH CONCERN that much of the work of the Facilitation Committee is seriously inhibited by the great difficulty, bordering on impossibility, of implementing widely accepted proposals to modernize the provisions of the Convention, under the present amendment procedures,

BEARING IN MIND that the prerequisite for bringing into force the amended Article VII is written acceptance by a two-thirds majority of the Contracting Governments and that, as at 20 November 1981, only five more acceptances are needed,

INVITES all Governments, Contracting Parties to the Convention, which have not accepted the amended text of Article VII thereof, to declare their intentions in this respect.

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