

RESOLUTION A.901(21)  
adopted on 25 November 1999  
IMO AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION IN THE 2000s

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION



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ASSEMBLY  
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THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Articles 2(e) and 15(k) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Organization and the Assembly in relation to the facilitation and promotion of technical co-operation,

RECALLING ALSO resolution A.873(20), in operative paragraph 1 of which the Assembly reaffirmed that technical co-operation is an essential part of the Organization's work to achieve the ratification and implementation of IMO's global instruments,

RECALLING FURTHER resolution A.900(21) on Objectives of the Organization in the 2000s, through which the Assembly, *inter alia*:

- affirmed its commitment to ensuring the fulfilment of the Organization's aims and objectives and to the setting of clear priorities for the purpose of achieving them in a uniform manner on a global basis; and
- directed the Committees, under the co-ordination of the Council, to focus their attention on, among other subjects, strengthening the Organization's technical co-operation programmes and delivery to achieve sustainable development and effective implementation of the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme (ITCP),

ACKNOWLEDGING with appreciation the initiative of the Secretary-General in proposing technical co-operation as a clear priority for the Organization during the 2000s,

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING with appreciation the work of the Technical Co-operation Committee:

- in reforming comprehensively the technical co-operation work of the Organization in order to increase its effectiveness in supporting the uniform implementation and enforcement of global maritime standards; and

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- in adopting technical co-operation priorities and principles for the future, as illustrated at Annex, as well as a realistic and pragmatic ITCP that will provide assistance to developing countries,

RECOGNIZING, in this context, that a comprehensive policy statement on technical co-operation would complement resolution A.900(21), support the related work of the Organization and provide guidance to the global community on the purpose and impact of IMO's technical co-operation activities,

BEING AWARE that the series of global United Nations conferences held during the 1990s has brought about significant reforms in the United Nations system's operational activities for development, with the aim of increasing the effectiveness of the system's support for sustainable development,

RECALLING that several IMO instruments contain provisions on the promotion of technical co-operation which urge the Parties thereto to support other Parties requesting technical assistance for their effective implementation and enforcement,

1. AFFIRMS that technical co-operation is an essential means of supporting the efforts of developing countries to strengthen the reliability and performance of their maritime activities, in compliance with global maritime standards;
2. DECIDES that the key objective of IMO's technical co-operation programme during the 2000s shall be maritime capacity-building, as a major contributor towards ensuring safer shipping and cleaner oceans;
3. DECIDES ALSO that IMO's mission statement, in relation to technical co-operation in the 2000s, shall be to help developing countries improve their ability to comply with international rules and standards relating to maritime safety and the prevention and control of marine pollution, giving priority to technical assistance programmes that focus on human resource development, particularly through training, and institutional capacity-building;
4. AFFIRMS that IMO's work in developing global maritime standards and in providing technical co-operation for their effective implementation and enforcement, can and does contribute to sustainable development, as illustrated at Annex;
5. URGES
  - (a) the Organization's development partners to acknowledge and respond to the direct relationship between IMO's regulatory and technical co-operation work and the promotion of sustainable development and, accordingly, to give increased priority to the maritime sector within national and multilateral development aid programmes; and
  - (b) Member States to take that linkage into account in the preparation and delivery of their national development plans;
6. URGES Parties to IMO instruments including provisions on technical co-operation to respond to their commitments;

7. INVITES Member States and partner organizations to use IMO as the mechanism for co-ordination in relation to technical co-operation in the maritime sector, so as to prevent the duplication of effort and resources, and thereby ensure the maximum impact of the assistance being provided and the effective promotion of IMO objectives;
8. REAFFIRMS its mandate to the Technical Co-operation Committee to devise effective and innovative means of attracting and securing further financial and in-kind support for the ITCP, and, in this context, invites Member States and the Secretariat to contribute to such work;  
and
9. INVITES Member States, the industry and partner organizations to continue, and if possible increase, their support for the ITCP and maritime technical co-operation generally.

ANNEX

<b>PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE OF IMO'S TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME</b>	
<b>PRIORITIES</b>	<b>RESULTS</b>
Advocacy of global maritime rules and standards	International treaty instruments ratified, and implementing national legislation put in place
Institutional capacity-building	Public sector departments capable of ensuring the effective exercise of flag, port and coastal State jurisdiction
Human resource development	Trained male and female experts to develop and manage national programmes for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• maritime safety administration</li> <li>• marine environment protection</li> <li>• development of maritime legislation</li> <li>• facilitation of maritime traffic</li> <li>• technical port operations</li> <li>• training of seafarers and shore-based personnel</li> </ul>

<b>KEY PRINCIPLES OF IMO'S TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ownership of the development and implementation process rests with the recipient countries themselves</li> <li>• integration of IMO's regulatory priorities into the programme-building process</li> <li>• development of human and institutional resources on a sustainable basis, including the advancement of women</li> <li>• promotion of regional collaboration and technical co-operation among developing countries;</li> <li>• promotion of partnerships with Governments, the industry and international development aid agencies</li> <li>• mobilization of regional expertise and resources for technical assistance activities</li> <li>• co-ordination with other development aid programmes in the maritime sector</li> <li>• feedback from recipients on the effectiveness of the assistance being provided, in accordance with paragraph 6 of resolution A.873(20)</li> <li>• monitoring systems and impact assessment, so that programme targets are met and so that lessons learned are transferred back to the programme-building process</li> </ul>

<b>ROLE OF IMO'S TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION WORK IN PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</b>	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>
Improving the safety and efficiency of maritime activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• well-run merchant and fishing fleets</li> <li>• improved turn-around of vessels and port throughput</li> <li>• increased global trade</li> <li>• improved balance of payments</li> </ul>
Enhancing marine environment protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cleaner waters and coasts</li> <li>• increased tourism</li> <li>• greater access to protein through improved fisheries catches</li> <li>• integrated coastal zone management</li> </ul>
Promoting sustainable livelihoods and poverty eradication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• employment for seafarers in the global shipping and fisheries industries</li> <li>• advancement of women in the maritime sector</li> <li>• increased foreign exchange earnings</li> <li>• consequent beneficial impact at local level, especially in coastal/fishing communities</li> </ul>

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