

CONFERENCE RESOLUTION 8
CO₂ EMISSIONS FROM SHIPS

THE CONFERENCE,

HAVING ADOPTED the Protocol of 1997 to amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (the 1997 Protocol),

RECOGNIZING that CO₂ emissions, being greenhouse gases, have an adverse effect on the environment,

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that Annex VI of MARPOL 73/78 does not address CO₂ emissions from ships,

NOTING that parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) have recognized the adverse effects of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere and that these gases originating from international shipping and aviation contribute to the global inventory of emissions,

NOTING FURTHER that the UNFCCC has recognized that the climate system should be protected for the benefit of present and future generations of mankind; that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible co-operation by all countries world-wide; and that the UNFCCC obliges parties to anticipate, prevent or minimize the causes of climate change and mitigate its adverse effects,

- 1 INVITES the Secretary-General of the Organization to cooperate with the Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC in the exchange of information on the issue of emissions of greenhouse gases;
- 2 INVITES the Organization, in cooperation with the UNFCCC, to undertake a study of CO₂ emissions from ships for the purpose of establishing the amount and relative percentage of CO₂ emissions from ships as part of the global inventory of CO₂ emissions. The study should estimate emissions for the most recent year where they may be reasonably estimated and should also address how shipboard emissions and their relative percentage contribution to the global inventory may change in future years, in light of reductions to be made in other sectors as well as other trends that may be reasonably anticipated through sound scientific analysis;
- 3 INVITES FURTHER the Marine Environment Protection Committee to consider what CO₂ reduction strategies may be feasible in light of the relationship between CO₂ and other atmospheric and marine pollutants, especially NO_x since NO_x emissions may exhibit an inverse relationship to CO₂ reduction; and
- 4 URGES Member States of the Organization to participate in the study on CO₂ emissions referred to above and propose any appropriate strategies to the Marine Environment Protection Committee.