



IMO

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CONVENTION ON FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL MARITIME TRAFFIC, 1965

Harmonized interpretation of the terms "documentary requirements"
appearing in the Preamble and in articles III, IV, VIII and
XIII of the Convention

1 The Facilitation Committee at its fifteenth session considered a number of proposed amendments to the Annex to the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic. The Committee agreed on the proposed amendments and that the provisions of the amended article VII now in force would apply for the formal adoption of these amendments.

2 In conjunction with the consideration of those amendments related to ADP, it was considered desirable to provide a harmonized interpretation of the term "documentary requirements", appearing in the Preamble and in articles III, IV, VIII and XIII of the Convention since concern was expressed that this term could be given a narrow interpretation, implying that information had to be conveyed on paper. As apparently no such limitations had been intended by the drafters of the Convention, and as the Assembly in resolution A.452(XI) had recommended that the possibility of accepting non-paper media should be explored for certain documents and under certain conditions, the Committee agreed on the following harmonized interpretation.

"Documentary requirements"

The term "documentary requirements" appearing in the Preamble and in articles III, IV, VIII and XIII of the Convention, shall be understood to mean such requirements whether the information required is conveyed on paper or on any other media that can be accepted by the party concerned."