

ANNEX 18

RESOLUTION MEPC.45(30)

adopted on 16 November 1990

PROTECTION OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF REGION

THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE,

NOTING that the Great Barrier Reef has been identified by the thirtieth session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee as a particularly sensitive area,

BEING AWARE of the close relationship between safety of navigation and the prevention of pollution from ships,

NOTING ALSO that the navigation of ships carrying substances harmful to the marine environment through the Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait area constitutes a potential danger of pollution to this unique area due to the risk of grounding or collision,

NOTING FURTHER Assembly resolution A.619(15) on the use of pilotage services in the Torres Strait and Great Barrier Reef area,

TAKING NOTE OF:

- resolution 5 - Intentional Pollution of the Sea and Accidental Spillages, adopted by the International Conference on Marine Pollution, 1973,
- resolution A.159(ES.IV) (Recommendation on pilotage),
- measures proposed by Australia for the protection of the Great Barrier Reef region, described in MEPC 30/19/4,

RECOMMENDS that Governments recognize the need for effective protection of the Great Barrier Reef region and inform ships flying their flag that they should act in accordance with Australia's system of pilotage for merchant ships 70 m in length and over or oil tankers, chemical tankers, and gas carriers, irrespective of size navigating the inner route of the Great Barrier Reef between the northern extreme of Cape York Peninsula (10°41'S) and 16°40'S and in Hydrographers Passage.

ANNEX

GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF REGION

The area is defined by the following boundary:

- (a) commences at the point that, at low water, is the northernmost extremity of Cape York Peninsula, Queensland;
- (b) runs thence easterly along the geodesic to the intersection of parallel of latitude $10^{\circ}41'S$ with the meridian of longitude $145^{\circ}00'E$;
- (c) runs thence southerly along that meridian to its intersection by the parallel of latitude $13^{\circ}00'S$;
- (d) runs thence south-easterly along the geodesic to a point of latitude $15^{\circ}30'S$ longitude $146^{\circ}00'E$;
- (e) runs thence south-easterly along the geodesic to a point of latitude $17^{\circ}30'S$ longitude $147^{\circ}00'E$;
- (f) runs thence south-easterly along the geodesic to a point of latitude $21^{\circ}00'S$ longitude $152^{\circ}55'E$;
- (g) runs thence south-easterly along the geodesic to a point of latitude $24^{\circ}30'S$ longitude $154^{\circ}00'E$;
- (h) runs thence westerly along the parallel of latitude $24^{\circ}30'S$ to its intersection by the coastline of Queensland at low water; and
- (i) runs thence generally northerly along that coastline at low water to the point of commencement.
