



ASSEMBLY
21st session
Agenda item 8

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RESOLUTION A.900(21)
adopted on 16 November 1999

OBJECTIVES OF THE ORGANIZATION IN THE 2000s

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING the desire expressed in resolution A.500(XII), Objectives of the Organization in the 1980s, to provide an institutional means to ensure achievement of IMO's objectives of safer shipping and cleaner oceans, while maintaining flexibility to meet contingencies,

RECALLING ALSO the desire expressed in resolution A.777(18), Work Methods and Organization of Work, to ensure a fuller, more active and more informed participation by all Member States in the work of the Organization, in particular in any decision-making process,

RECALLING FURTHER previous decisions whereby it assigned the highest priority to the promotion of the implementation of international standards and regulations for the improvement of maritime safety and for the prevention and control of marine pollution from ships adopted by the Organization, and for the resolution of legal matters related thereto,

RECALLING IN PARTICULAR the directions to the Council and Committees provided in resolutions A.500(XII) and A.777(18) whereby the former was asked to co-ordinate the work of the latter through, *inter alia*, agreeing on work programme goals and assignment of priorities among general subject areas,

BEING APPRECIATIVE of the stewardship of the Council and of the response of all Committees in adopting and consistently implementing the Guidelines on the organization and method of their work,

RECOGNIZING the ceaseless efforts of the Secretary-General to promote:

- the objectives of the Organization (in particular, the decisive action and leadership he provided towards enhancing the safety of ro-ro passenger ships and bulk carriers and the expeditious revision of the STCW Convention); and

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- the world-wide implementation of the standards and regulations adopted by the Organization (in particular, his efforts to ensure wide and effective implementation of the revised STCW Convention, ISM Code, MARPOL 73/78 and the FAL Convention),

RECOGNIZING FURTHER the Secretary-General's initiative in restructuring the Organization's budget in such a manner that it now focuses on the Organization's work programme, thus contributing to the attainment of the objectives of the Organization through increased transparency and accountability,

ACKNOWLEDGING the invaluable contribution of the Organization's technical co-operation activities to effective implementation of the various IMO standards, resulting in enhanced safety and environmental protection,

ACKNOWLEDGING ALSO the special contribution of the World Maritime University, the IMO International Maritime Law Institute and the IMO International Maritime Academy to the attainment of the objectives of the Organization,

DESIRING to ensure the Organization's continued promotion of quality shipping in accordance with its status as the world's foremost maritime institution,

BEING COMMITTED 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,

1. REAFFIRMS its direction to the Council to co-ordinate the work of Committees and to ensure consistency with the overall goals of the Organization;
2. DIRECTS the Committees, under the co-ordination of the Council:
 - .1 to take measures to implement the proactive policy agreed in the 1990s more actively than in the past, so that trends which might adversely affect the safety of ships and those on board and/or the environment may be identified at the earliest feasible stage and action taken to avoid or mitigate such effects. In implementing this directive, Formal Safety Assessment should be used to the extent possible in any rule-making process;
 - .2 to focus their attention on:
 - shifting emphasis onto people;
 - ensuring the effective uniform implementation of existing IMO standards and regulations relating to maritime safety and environmental protection, placing particular emphasis on the implementation of the revised STCW Convention and the ISM Code and on putting in place the necessary infrastructure for the implementation of the global SAR plan and the MARPOL requirements concerning reception facilities for ship-generated waste;

- addressing safety and environmental protection issues, to the extent feasible, by ship types, with particular emphasis on passenger ships (including high-speed passenger craft) and bulk carriers;
 - ensuring the wide early acceptance of those annexes to the MARPOL Convention which have not yet entered into force;
 - developing a safety culture and environmental conscience in all activities undertaken by the Organization;
 - avoiding excessive regulation; and
 - giving priority to and strengthening the Organization's technical co-operation programmes and delivery to achieve sustainable development and effective implementation of the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme;
- .3 to promote the intensification by Governments and industry of efforts to prevent and suppress unlawful acts which threaten the security of ships, the safety of those on board and the environment (in particular, terrorism at sea, piracy and armed robbery against ships, illicit drug trafficking, illegal migration by sea and stowaway cases); and
- .4 to continue observing resolution A.500(XII) and resolution A.777(18), the continuing relevance of which has been reaffirmed on many occasions since their adoption;

3. INVITES Member Governments to bring this resolution to the attention of their representatives who attend meetings of the Organization, advising them to observe the policies and directives of this resolution as well as those contained in resolutions A.500(XII) and A.777(18).
