

RESOLUTION A.448(XI)

*Adopted on 15 November 1979
Agenda item 11*

**REGIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMBATING MAJOR INCIDENTS
OR THREATS OF MARINE POLLUTION**

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING resolution A.297(VIII) by which it established the Marine Environment Protection Committee and specified the functions and responsibilities of that Committee,

RECALLING ALSO resolution A.349(IX) affirming the desirability of continuing to enhance the activity of IMCO, within the limits of its resources and budget, for providing technical assistance in the field of marine pollution and requesting *inter alia* the Marine Environment Protection Committee to take all possible steps to further this objective,

RECOGNIZING that regional anti-pollution arrangements are a valuable and economical way of supplementing national arrangements in the effective combating of major spillages of oil or noxious substances,

RECOGNIZING ALSO that IMCO can be of significant assistance in bringing such arrangements into existence,

RECOGNIZING FURTHER the valuable contribution which the shipping and oil industries can provide in the implementation of such arrangements,

BEING AWARE of existing agreements and arrangements which have already been concluded in certain regions for co-operation in dealing with pollution of the sea in cases of emergency,

BEING ALSO AWARE of on-going and planned activities undertaken by international organizations, particularly the United Nations Environment Programme, relating to regional arrangements for the protection of the marine environment,

HAVING CONSIDERED the report of the Marine Environment Protection Committee on its tenth session containing a plan of action to promote regional contingency arrangements,

1. URGES Governments:
 - (a) To develop or improve national contingency arrangements to the extent feasible;
 - (b) To develop, as appropriate, joint contingency arrangements at a regional, sub-regional or sectoral level or on a bilateral basis, if they have not already done so;
2. INVITES those Governments which have resources and expertise available to assist in developing and implementing such contingency arrangements;
3. INVITES ALSO non-governmental organizations representing the shipping and oil industries to co-operate with Governments in such action;
4. REQUESTS the Council, the Marine Environment Protection Committee and the Secretary-General to take all possible steps to develop and pursue programmes which would assist in promoting regional anti-pollution arrangements.