

**Resolution A.777(18)**

*Adopted on 4 November 1993  
(Agenda item 27)*

**WORK METHODS AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK  
IN COMMITTEES AND THEIR SUBSIDIARY BODIES**

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECOGNIZING the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General to promote the objectives of the Organization, in particular his positive approach to the enhancement of maritime safety and the prevention and control of marine pollution from ships,

NOTING the significant increase in the membership of the Organization in recent years,

BEING DESIROUS of ensuring 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,

BEING DESIROUS ALSO of ensuring the fulfilment of other aims in respect of the work of the Organization, such as the achievement of a more effective implementation of IMO standards and other regulations as well as the setting of clear priorities,

NOTING concerns expressed particularly at the seventieth session of the Council that the present working methods and organization of work in the Committees and their subsidiary bodies do not in all cases allow the fulfilment of the aims and objectives referred to above,

RECALLING the directives contained in resolution A.500(XII) on the objectives of the Organization in the 1980s, the continuing relevance of which has been reaffirmed at all subsequent sessions of the Assembly,

RECALLING IN PARTICULAR that resolution A.500(XII) directs the Council to co-ordinate the work of Committees and their subsidiary bodies through, *inter alia*, agreeing on work programme goals and assignment of priorities among general subject areas, taking into account the views of the Committees on priorities and their responsibilities for substantive technical and legal matters,

RECALLING ALSO the Guidelines for the Organization and Method of Work of the Maritime Safety Committee and its Subsidiary Bodies, as revised at the fifty-ninth session of the Maritime Safety Committee,

CONVINCED of the need for the Committees, under the direction of the Council, to devise workable solutions which would further the achievement of the aims and objectives referred to in this resolution and enable the Organization to continue meeting present and future challenges in the fields of maritime safety and prevention and control of pollution of the marine environment,

1. COMMITS ITSELF to improving the work methods and organization of work of the Organization and enhancing participation by Member States;
2. DIRECTS the Committees to review their work methods and organization of work, taking into account the aims and objectives referred to in this resolution, and to issue guidelines adopted as a result of such review;
3. DIRECTS ALSO the Committees to assign priorities in their work programmes and strictly adhere to such priorities as well as to their guidelines on work methods and organization of work and to inform the Council on the operation of these guidelines;
4. INVITES the attention of the Committees to resolution A.500(XII) and in particular its recommendation that proposals for new conventions or amendments to existing conventions be entertained only on the basis

of clear and well-documented compelling need and having regard to the costs to the maritime industry and the burden of the legislative and administrative resources of Member States;

5. ENCOURAGES the development by the Committees of workable solutions aimed at more informed decision-making;
6. REAFFIRMS its direction to the Council in resolution A.500(XII) to co-ordinate the work of Committees and their subsidiary bodies and to ensure consistency with the overall goals of the Organization;
7. RESOLVES to keep the matter under review;
8. INVITES Member Governments to bring this resolution to the attention of their representatives who attend meetings of the Organization and to advise them to observe agreed guidelines on work methods and organization of work.