

Resolution A.728(17)
Adopted on 7 November 1991
(Agenda item 27)

LONG-TERM WORK PLAN OF THE ORGANIZATION
(up to 1998)

THE ASSEMBLY

RECALLING its resolution A.643(16) by which it approved the subjects for consideration in the long-term work plan of the Organization in the period up to 1996,

RECALLING ALSO that it requested the Council, the Maritime Safety Committee, the Legal Committee, the Marine Environment Protection Committee, the Technical Co-operation Committee and the Facilitation Committee to keep the respective lists of subjects under review in the light of developments in the work of the Organization while continuing to bear in mind the directives contained in resolution A.500(XII) on the objectives of the Organization,

HAVING CONSIDERED the proposal of the Council for the long-term work plan which has been prepared in the light of the views of the Maritime Safety Committee, the Legal Committee, the Marine Environment Protection Committee, the Technical Co-operation Committee and the Facilitation Committee,

1. APPROVES the long-term work plan comprising an indicative list of subjects for consideration by the Organization for the period up to 1998 as set out in the annex to the present resolution;
2. REQUESTS the Council, the Maritime Safety Committee, the Legal Committee, the Marine Environment Protection Committee, the Technical Co-operation Committee and the Facilitation Committee to keep the respective lists of subjects under review in the light of developments in the work of the Organization, while continuing to bear in mind the directives contained in resolution A.500(XII) and to report or recommend, as necessary, to the Assembly at its eighteenth regular session;
3. FURTHER REQUESTS all Committees, when considering proposals for future work, to ensure that the subjects proposed are those on which significant work could reasonably be envisaged in the foreseeable future;
4. EMPHASIZES that all proposed items, and especially those involving amendments to existing conventions, particularly those which had been in force for a short period, should be evaluated by reference to the directives in resolution A.500(XII), and that due attention should be given to the requirement that a well-documented "compelling need" must be demonstrated for new or revised standards;
5. REITERATES ITS REQUEST to the Council, the Maritime Safety Committee, the Legal Committee, the Marine Environment Protection Committee, the Technical Co-operation Committee and the Facilitation Committee, when reviewing the long-term work plan and in making recommendations for the work programme for subsequent periods, to bear in mind the desirability of scheduling not more than one conference in each year, save in exceptional circumstances.

Annex

The following is an indicative list of subjects for consideration by the Maritime Safety Committee, the Legal Committee, the Marine Environment Protection Committee, the Technical Co-operation Committee and the Facilitation Committee for the period up to 1998. This list is not exhaustive and the subjects are not listed in order of priority.

MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE

I Objectives

1 Pursuant to the provisions of Articles 1 and 28 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, to encourage the general adoption of the highest practicable standards in respect of matters concerning maritime safety and efficiency of navigation including any matter within the scope of the Organization concerned with aids to navigation, construction and equipment of vessels (and other marine vehicles), training and qualification of seafarers, manning from a safety standpoint, rules for the prevention of collisions, handling of dangerous cargoes, maritime safety procedures and requirements, hydrographic information, log-books and navigational records, marine casualty investigations, salvage and rescue, and any other matter directly affecting maritime safety (e.g. fire safety, maritime communications and the safe transport of cargoes generally) and with due regard to the context of resolution A.500(XII).

2 To provide the necessary machinery for performing any duties assigned to it and to maintain such close relationship with other bodies as may further the purposes of the Organization.

II Specific subjects

1 Implementation, enforcement, monitoring, technical interpretation and improvement of conventions, codes, recommendations and guidelines.

2 Procedures for the control of ships including deficiency reports.

3 Casualty statistics and investigations into serious casualties.

4 Examination of the role of the human element in maritime casualties and accidents.

5 Safety-related aspects of working conditions on board fishing vessels.

6 Harmonization of survey and certification requirements.

7 Training, watchkeeping and operational procedures for maritime personnel, including seafarers, fishermen, maritime pilots, VTS operators, those responsible for maritime safety in mobile offshore units, and shore-based port personnel.

8 Shipboard and shore-based management for the safe operation of ships.

9 Measures to improve navigational safety, including ships' routeing, requirements and standards for navigational aids, ship reporting systems and vessel traffic systems.

10 The global maritime distress and safety system and other maritime radiocommunication matters including navigational warning services, shipborne radio equipment and operational procedures.

11 Survival in case of maritime casualty or distress, and the provision of maritime search and rescue services.

12 Safe carriage of solid bulk cargoes, timber, grain and other cargoes by sea, including containers and vehicles.

- 13 Carriage of dangerous goods in packaged form, portable tanks, unit load, other transport units, shipborne barges and intermediate bulk containers (IBCs).
- 14 Carriage of irradiated nuclear fuel.
- 15 Emergency procedures and safety measures for ships carrying dangerous goods, medical first aid in case of accidents involving dangerous goods and the safe use of pesticides in ships.
- 16 Safe handling and storage of dangerous goods in port areas.
- 17 Intact stability, subdivision, damage stability and load lines of ships.
- 18 Tonnage measurement of ships.
- 19 Safety considerations for machinery and electrical installations in ships.
- 20 Manoeuvrability of intact and disabled ships.
- 21 Control of noise and related vibration levels on board ships.
- 22 Matters pertaining to fire safety on board ships.
- 23 Reduction of the use in ships of ozone-depleting agents.
- 24 Safety aspects of the design, construction, equipment and operation of specific types of ships, such as fishing vessels, ships carrying solid bulk cargoes, oil tankers, chemical tankers, gas carriers, dynamically supported craft, mobile offshore drilling units, special purpose ships, offshore supply vessels, nuclear merchant ships, roll-on roll-off ships, barge carriers, barges carrying dangerous chemicals in bulk and diving systems.
- 25 Prevention of piracy and unlawful acts against ships.
- 26 Revision of the 1977 Torremolinos International Convention.
- 27 Possible development of a computer database on the applicable requirements of IMO instruments.
- 28 Transboundary movement of hazardous waste.
- 29 Co-operation with the United Nations and other international bodies on matters of mutual interest.
- 30 Review of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea.
- 31 Adoption by a diplomatic conference of a protocol to the 1978 STCW Convention to establish mandatory minimum requirements for the certification of fishermen.

LEGAL COMMITTEE

- 1 Draft convention on civil jurisdiction, choice of law, recognition and enforcement of judgements in matters of collision at sea.
- 2 Consideration of the legal status of novel types of craft, such as air-cushion vehicles, operating in the marine environment.
- 3 A possible convention on wreck removal and related issues.
- 4 A possible convention on the regime of vessels in foreign ports.
- 5 Legal status of ocean data acquisition systems (ODAS).

6 Possible revision of maritime law conventions in the light of proven need and subject to the directives in resolution A.500(XII), including, in particular, revision of the 1976 Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims in order particularly to update the limitation therein, subject to the conclusions reached in respect of future work on the draft HNS Convention.

MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE

I Principal objectives

1 Pursuant to the provisions of Articles 1 and 38 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, to encourage adoption of the highest practicable standards in matters concerning the prevention and control of marine pollution from ships with due regard to the context of resolution A.500(XII). More immediately to promote world-wide acceptance and uniform implementation of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78) as well as the promotion of the early acceptance of the International Convention for Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation, 1990 (OPRC Convention).

2 To promote the necessary machinery for performing any duties assigned to it and to maintain such close relationship with other bodies as may further the purposes of the Organization.

3 To promote, in co-operation with UNDP, UNEP, IBRD and national development agencies, IMO's programmes of technical assistance in the field of marine environmental protection.

II Specific subjects

1 Implementation, enforcement, amendment and uniform interpretation of the provisions of MARPOL 73/78 and related codes, recommendations and guidelines, and monitoring of the effectiveness with which the Convention is implemented, including:

- .1 procedures for the control of ships and discharges under MARPOL 73/78;
- .2 penalties for infringement of Convention provisions;
- .3 casualty investigations in relation to marine pollution;
- .4 examination of the role of the human element in maritime casualties resulting in pollution incidents; and
- .5 survey and certification of ships under MARPOL 73/78.

2 Implementation of the OPRC Convention, including:

- .1 arrangements for combating major incidents of marine pollution;
- .2 promotion of regional arrangements for combating marine pollution; and
- .3 extension of the OPRC Convention to include harmful substances other than oil.

3 Environmental aspects of the design, construction, equipment and operation of oil tankers.

4 Identification of particularly sensitive areas.

5 Shipboard and shore-based management for the prevention of marine pollution.

6 Provision of reception facilities.

7 Prevention of air pollution from ships, including fuel oil quality.

8 Control of transboundary movement of hazardous wastes.

9 Use of triorganotin compounds in antifouling paints for ships.

- 10 Oil discharge monitoring and control systems, oily-water separators and oil filtering equipment.
- 11 Categorization of noxious liquid substances and harmful substances.
- 12 Prevention of pollution by noxious solid substances in bulk.
- 13 Development and updating of anti-pollution manuals.

TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

1 In accordance with the provisions of the IMO Convention, the Technical Co-operation Committee will:

- .1 consider programmes relating to the implementation of technical co-operation activities for which IMO acts as the executing or co-operating agency;
- .2 consider any other matters relating to IMO's functions in the technical co-operation field; and
- .3 keep under review the work of the Organization's technical co-operation programme.

The objective of IMO's technical co-operation will be to provide assistance to developing countries in establishing training, technical, legal and managerial capacities required for the adoption and implementation of global standards of IMO conventions, codes and recommendations on maritime safety, marine pollution prevention, and related aspects of shipping and ports.

2 Particular attention will be paid to:

- .1 assisting developing countries to keep abreast of rapid technological changes in the maritime industry through transfer of technology and undergraduate, postgraduate, and specialized maritime training, including IMO Model Courses;
- .2 building self-reliance of developing countries for the development and implementation of maritime policies and for national execution of maritime projects;
- .3 increasing awareness of and capacity to prevent and control the damage to the environment caused by ship-generated marine pollution, ocean dumping and dredging;
- .4 encouraging provision of port reception facilities across the whole spectrum of ship-generated waste and contaminated ballast;
- .5 encouraging provision of aerial remote-sensing equipment;
- .6 assisting developing countries to prepare specific response capabilities for dealing with oil and chemical spills, including the training of personnel;
- .7 assisting in the implementation of the global maritime distress and safety system (GMDSS);
- .8 harmonizing maritime legislation with international conventions and regulations;
- .9 promoting technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC); and
- .10 promoting the integration of women in the maritime sector.

3 In the context of technical co-operation activities funded by voluntary contributions, the Organization will be in a position to respond to technical co-operation requests of developing countries by providing the following services:

- .1 sectoral analytical work;
- .2 technical co-operation needs assessment;
- .3 project design and detailed formulation;
- .4 technical appraisal of project proposals and advice on implementation options;
- .5 identification of potential donors and related negotiations;
- .6 preparation of technical job descriptions for projects;

- .7 identification, appraisal and recruitment of project personnel;
- .8 briefing and debriefing of project personnel;
- .9 preparation of equipment specifications or subcontract tender documents;
- .10 technical appraisal of bids;
- .11 assistance in procurement of equipment;
- .12 development of tailor-made fellowship programmes and placement;
- .13 arrangements for group training, on-the-job training, seminars, workshops and specialized courses;
- .14 maintenance of roster of experts and consultants, as well as of relevant consulting firms, marine equipment suppliers, universities and training centres;
- .15 technical monitoring and related support at field level;
- .16 mid-term project reviews and evaluation services;
- .17 review and clearance of technical reports;
- .18 *ad hoc* technical advice for redesigning projects, programming and technical panels, etc.

4 In the context of its technical co-operation activities, and so far as financial resources permit, the Organization will strictly adhere to the measures adopted on a system-wide basis to implement General Assembly resolution 44/211: "Comprehensive triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system".

FACILITATION COMMITTEE

- 1 The implementation, technical interpretation and improvement of the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic, 1965, and its annex.
- 2 Facilitation activities within the Organization including:
 - .1 promotional activities carried out in co-operation with Member Governments, Contracting Governments and organizations concerned; and
 - .2 facilitation aspects of forms and certificates emanating from other activities of the Organization.
- 3 IMO policy on automatic data processing of shipping documents and documents used for clearance of ships.
- 4 Examination and possible adaptation of elements of conventions, codes and recommendations of a facilitative nature elaborated by other organizations.
- 5 Consideration and formulation of proposals for amending the Convention or its annex including harmonization with other United Nations FAL conventions.
- 6 Formalities connected with the arrival, stay and departure of ships, persons and cargo.
- 7 Adoption of measures which are not covered by the FAL Convention to facilitate the entry and departure of ships.
- 8 Facilitation aspects of IMO's work on unlawful interference with international maritime traffic.
- 9 Facilitation aspects of methods to control the illicit drug traffic.
- 10 Methods of handling inadequately documented passengers.
- 11 International directory of national documentary requirements.
- 12 Facilities for elderly and disabled passengers.
- 13 Policy on ports.