

RESOLUTION A.487(XII)

*Adopted on 19 November 1981
Agenda item 10(b)*

PARTICIPATION IN THE AMVER SYSTEM

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Article 16(i) of the Convention on the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization,

NOTING the provisions of the Annex to the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979, concerning arrangements for the provision and co-ordination of search and rescue services,

NOTING FURTHER that the Annex to the Convention provides that search and rescue regions shall be established by agreement among the Parties,

BEING OF THE OPINION that search and rescue regions will not be established for all areas of the sea for several years,

CONSIDERING that the Automated Mutual-Assistance Vessel Rescue System (AMVER) provides a world-wide ship reporting system meeting many of the safety purposes set forth in Chapter 6 of the Annex to the Convention,

RECOGNIZING that the AMVER System does not provide the means of reducing the interval between the loss of contact with a vessel and the initiation of search and rescue operations,

BEARING IN MIND that participation in the AMVER System is voluntary and that at present over one fourth of the merchant ships engaged in transocean voyages participate,

RECOGNIZING ALSO that safety at sea will be improved by greater participation in the AMVER System,

HAVING CONSIDERED the recommendation made by the Maritime Safety Committee at its forty-fourth session,

URGES States to encourage participation in the AMVER System by their ships except where other reporting systems associated with search and rescue are established and their ships are reporting to them.