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**Adopted on 5 December 2003
(Agenda item 15)**

**LONG-TERM WORK PLAN OF THE ORGANIZATION
(UP TO 2010)**

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING resolution A.907(22) by which it approved the subjects for consideration in the long-term work plan of the Organization in the period up to 2008,

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) concerning the objectives of the Organization in the 1980s, resolution A.777(18) concerning the work methods and organization of work in committees and their subsidiary bodies and resolution A.900(21) concerning the objectives of the Organization in the 2000s,

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 2010 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), resolution A.777(18) and resolution A.900(21) and to report or recommend, as necessary, to the Assembly at its twenty-fourth 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;

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4. STRESSES that all proposed items, and especially those involving amendments to existing conventions, particularly those which have 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 2010. This list is not exhaustive and the subjects are not listed in order of priority.

LONG-TERM WORK PLAN OF THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD UP TO 2010

The items listed below which are marked with an asterisk are considered to be high-priority items. Work on the remaining items will be initiated only after proposals substantiating their importance and urgency have been submitted and endorsed by the Committee or a compelling need to do so has been clearly established and the Committee has agreed that urgent action should be taken on them.

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 relating to the design, construction and equipment of ships (and other marine vehicles), training and qualification of seafarers and fishing vessel personnel, manning of ships from a safety standpoint, rules for the prevention of collisions, search and rescue, aids to navigation, maritime safety procedures and requirements, hydrographic information, handling of dangerous cargoes, log-books and navigational records, marine casualty investigations, salvage 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 contents of resolutions A.500(XII), A.777(18) and A.900(21). Maritime security tasks were also assigned to the Committee following decisions of the twenty-second Assembly and the 2002 SOLAS Conference on Maritime Security.
- 2 To provide the necessary machinery for performing any duties assigned to it and to maintain such close relations with other bodies as may further the purposes of the Organization.

II GENERAL SUBJECTS

- * 1 Implementation, enforcement, monitoring, technical interpretation and improvement of conventions, codes, recommendations and guidelines.
- * 2 Role of the human element in the prevention of maritime casualties and accidents.
- * 3 Promotion and maintenance of a safety culture and security consciousness.
- * 4 Shipboard and shore-based management for the safe and secure operation of ships.

- * 5 Formal safety assessment.
- 6 Procedures for the control of ships, including deficiency reports.
- * 7 Casualty statistics and investigations into serious casualties.
- 8 Harmonization of survey and certification requirements.
- * 9 Prevention/suppression of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships, and of other unlawful acts which may threaten the safety of navigation.
- * 10 Measures to enhance maritime security.
- * 11 Safety measures and procedures for the treatment of persons rescued at sea.
- * 12 Co-operation with the United Nations and other international bodies on matters of mutual interest.
- 13 Technical input in technical co-operation projects.
- * 14 Goal-based new ship construction standards.
- * 15 Large passenger ship safety.
- * 16 Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme.

III SPECIFIC SUBJECTS

Items related to ship design, construction, machinery, electrical installations and equipment

- 1 Safety aspects of the design, construction, machinery, electrical installations, equipment and operation of specific types of ships, including fishing vessels.
- 2 Intact and damage stability, subdivision and load lines of ships.
- 3 Manoeuvrability of ships.
- 4 Matters pertaining to fire protection, detection and extinction, fire-test procedures and other matters related to fire safety on board ships.
- 5 Safe evacuation, survival and recovery following maritime casualties or in case of distress.
- 6 Tonnage measurement of ships.

Items related to navigation and radiocommunications

- 7 Measures to improve navigational safety, including ships' routing, ship reporting systems, vessel traffic services, requirements and standards for navigational aids, and shipborne navigational systems and requirements.

- 8 Monitoring the operation of the global maritime distress and safety system and dealing with other maritime radiocommunication matters (including maritime safety information, shipborne radio equipment and operational procedures) and the worldwide provision of maritime search and rescue services.

Items related to training, certification and watchkeeping

- 9 Training, watchkeeping and operational procedures for maritime personnel, including seafarers, fishing vessel personnel, maritime pilots, VTS operators, those responsible for maritime safety and security on board ships and mobile offshore units, and shore-based port personnel.
- 10 Seafarers' certificates of competency.

Items related to cargo handling

- 11 Safe handling and carriage by sea of solid and liquid bulk cargoes.
- 12 Safe handling and carriage of dangerous goods in packaged form, including portable tanks, unit loads, other cargo transport units, shipborne barges and intermediate bulk containers (IBCs).
- 13 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.
- 14 Safe cargo stowage and securing and container safety and security matters.
- 15 Safety and security at the ship/port interface.
- 16 Transboundary movement of hazardous waste.

LONG-TERM WORK PLAN OF THE LEGAL COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD UP TO 2010

The following is an indicative list of subjects for consideration by the Legal Committee for the period to 2010. This list is not exhaustive and the subjects are not listed in order of priority.

I SPECIFIC SUBJECTS

- 1 Completion of the preparatory work on a convention on wreck removal.
- 2 Monitoring the work of the Joint IMO/ILO *Ad Hoc* Expert Working Group on Liability and Compensation regarding Claims for Death, Personal Injury and Abandonment of Seafarers.
- 3 Revision of the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, 1988, and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms on the Continental Shelf, 1988 (SUA Convention and SUA Protocol).
- 4 Follow-up action regarding the question of places of refuge.

- 5 Possible comprehensive revision of the Civil Liability and Fund Conventions on liability and compensation for oil pollution damage.
- 6 Monitoring the implementation of the HNS Convention.

II GENERAL SUBJECTS

- 1 Possible revision of maritime law conventions in the light of proven need and subject to the directives in resolution A.500(XII), resolution A.777(18) and resolution A.900(21).
- 2 Monitoring the implementation of conventions adopted as a result of the work of the Legal Committee.
- 3 Examination of issues relating to the role of the Organization under the United Nations Law of the Sea Convention.
- 4 Promotion of IMO's technical co-operation subprogramme in the field of maritime legislation.
- 5 Legal issues arising in other IMO bodies and referred to the Legal Committee.
- 6 Co-ordination and co-operation with the UN and other UN specialized agencies on legal matters of common interest.
- 7 Examination of maritime law initiatives undertaken by Member States or non-governmental bodies.

LONG-TERM WORK PLAN OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD TO 2010

I OBJECTIVES

Pursuant to the provisions of Articles 1 and 38 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, the objectives of the Committee are as follows:

- 1.1 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 resolutions A.500(XII), A.777(18) and A.900(21). More immediately, to promote worldwide acceptance, implementation and uniform interpretation of MARPOL 73/78, as well as its Annex VI, OPRC 1990, the OPRC-HNS Protocol and the AFS Convention.
- 1.2 To adhere to the principles and declaration adopted by UNCED and WSSD in the field of marine environment protection and response to pollution incidents, including the principle of precautionary approach.
- 1.3 To provide the necessary machinery for performing any duties assigned to it and to maintain such close relations with other bodies as may further the purposes of the Organization.

- 1.4 To promote, in co-operation with UNDP, UNEP, the World Bank, in particular the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and national development agencies, IMO's environmental programmes, including technical co-operation in the field of marine environmental protection, and the management and execution of large scale environmental projects.

II SPECIFIC SUBJECTS

Implementation of existing treaty instruments

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 Designation and protection of Special Areas under MARPOL 73/78.
- 2.3 Reports regarding marine casualty investigations by Member States in relation to pollution incidents (MSC/Circ.953 – MEPC/Circ.372).
- 2.4 Reports by Parties regarding implementation of MARPOL 73/78, which is mandatory under the Convention (MEPC/Circ.318).
- 2.5 Prevention of air pollution from ships, including measures to promote the entry into force and implementation of MARPOL Annex VI.
- 2.6 Evaluation of chemicals as contained in the IBC Code, which is mandatory under the provisions of MARPOL Annex II.
- 2.7 Implementation of the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification under MARPOL 73/78 and implementation of the Condition Assessment Scheme (CAS).
- 2.8 Implementation of the ISM Code with regard to effective management for the prevention and control of marine pollution.
- 2.9 Implementation of the INF Code and related matters, including environmental impact assessment.
- 2.10 Matters relating to harmful anti-fouling systems, including entry into force and implementation of the AFS Convention.
- 2.11 Matters relating to reception facilities in ports.
- 2.12 Implementation, enforcement, amendment and uniform interpretation of the provisions of the OPRC Convention and the OPRC-HNS Protocol, and implementation of the relevant Conference resolutions.
- 2.13 Matters related to the 1973 Intervention Protocol.

Legislative activity – Establishment of necessary international measures for emerging environmental issues

- 2.14 Review of the standards for the design, construction and operation of oil and chemical tankers, including those for pollution prevention equipment taking into account the recommendations resulting from recent accidents.
- 2.15 Consideration of measures to minimize the risks of introducing harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens through discharges from ships' ballast water and sediments, including development and implementation of the proposed convention.
- 2.16 Development of measures for the prevention of marine pollution by noxious solid substances carried in bulk.
- 2.17 Development of measures to prevent and control marine pollution from ship recycling and measures to reduce human health hazards, in co-operation with the Basel Convention, ILO and other stakeholders.
- 2.18 Matters related to places of refuge for ships in distress with regard to protection of the marine environment.
- 2.19 Development of Formal Safety Assessment (FSA) procedures and addressing the environmental indexing of ships.
- 2.20 Development of measures to prevent and control marine pollution from small craft.

Identification of PSSAs

- 2.21 Identification and protection of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs) in accordance with Assembly resolution A.927(22).

Co-operation with other IMO committees

- 2.22 Guidance and general directions for environment-related technical co-operation programmes (with TCC).
- 2.23 Human element (with MSC).
- 2.24 Formal Safety Assessment (with MSC).
- 2.25 Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme, subject to further developments and decisions (with MSC and TCC).

Co-operation with other UN agencies

- 2.26 Follow-up action to UNCED and WSSD, including prevention of marine pollution from offshore oil and gas activities.
- 2.27 Activities of GESAMP.

- 2.28 Co-operation with relevant UN agencies and other international bodies on matters of mutual interest.

Oversight function for IMO's environmental programmes and projects

- 2.29 Guidance, general directions and monitoring for environmental programmes and projects conducted by the Secretariat:

- .1 GloBallast Project.
- .2 Marine Electronic Highway (MEH) Project.

LONG-TERM WORK PLAN OF THE TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD TO 2010

I LONG-TERM GOAL, MISSION STATEMENT AND PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE

- 1 Through the adoption of resolution A.900(21) on the "Objectives of the Organization in the 2000s", the Assembly directed the Organization's organs to focus their attention on, among other subjects, strengthening IMO's technical co-operation programmes and delivery, in order to achieve sustainable development and the effective implementation of the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme (ITCP).
- 2 In conjunction with the above resolution, the Assembly also approved resolution A.901(21) on "IMO and Technical Co-operation in the 2000s", which states that the long term goal of IMO's technical co-operation work is:

"maritime capacity-building, as a major contributor towards ensuring safer shipping and cleaner oceans."
- 3 The Assembly also decided that IMO's mission statement, in relation to technical co-operation in the 2000s, would be:

"to help developing countries improve their ability to comply with international rules and standards relating to maritime safety and the prevention and control of marine pollution, giving priority to technical assistance programmes that focus on human resource development, particularly through training, and institutional capacity-building".
- 4 The Assembly decided further that the ITCP should focus on the three priorities illustrated in the table below since, together, they can ensure sustainable maritime development, efficient and safe maritime transport services and effective environmental protection:

Priorities for the Future of IMO's Technical Co-operation Programme	
Priorities	Results
Advocacy of global maritime rules and standards	International treaty instruments ratified, and implementing national legislation put in place
Institutional capacity-building	Public sector departments capable of ensuring the effective exercise of flag, port and coastal State jurisdiction
Human resource development	Trained male and female experts to develop and manage national programmes for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maritime safety administration • marine environment protection • development of maritime legislation • facilitation of maritime traffic • technical port operations • training of seafarers and shore-based personnel

II SPECIFIC SUBJECTS

- 5 Pursuant to the provisions of the IMO Convention, the Technical Co-operation Committee: (a) establishes guidelines for the development and implementation of the ITCP; (b) considers and prioritizes technical co-operation programmes and projects for the implementation of activities for which IMO acts as the executing or co-operating agency; and (c) considers any other matters relating to IMO's functions in the technical co-operation field, including the mobilization of resources and the allocation of such funds of the Organization as may be approved by the Assembly for technical co-operation purposes.
- 6 To ensure the continuous and successful development of the ITCP, the Technical Co-operation Committee will monitor and, as appropriate, develop directives and guidance for:
- .1 the Organization's technical co-operation policies and strategies, in the light of:
- developments in the regulatory framework of the Organization;
 - impact assessments of activities carried out previously;
 - general socio-economic development trends;
 - guidelines established through the UN General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the triennial reviews of the UN system's operational activities for development and the Agenda for Development;
 - relevant global or sectoral Conferences;

- .2 the development of appropriate technical assistance programmes relating especially to flag State implementation, port State control and other priority subjects identified by the IMO organs;
- .3 the development of improved Member State and donor interface through the establishment of further partnerships with donors and regional bodies involved in the delivery of capacity-building projects relevant to IMO's mandate, leading to improved co-ordination at the field level and more efficient use of development aid resources;
- .4 the Organization's structural requirements for the effective delivery of the ITCP, including arrangements at Headquarters and in the developing regions;
- .5 the mobilization and allocation of financial or in-kind resources for the ITCP, including the promotion of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries (TCDC and ECDC);
- .6 the follow-up to WSSD (Johannesburg 2002) and other UN plans of action that have an impact on IMO's work, giving special regard to sustainable maritime development and its required financing, including the development of relevant programmes, extra-budgetary activities and financial mechanisms based on the internalization of costs;
- .7 the further implementation of the IMO Action Programme for Equal Opportunities and Advancement of Women in the Maritime Sector, taking into account resolutions TC.1(39), TC.2(40) and TC.3(45) and the follow-up to Beijing +5;
- .8 the strengthening of institutional development through support for global maritime training institutions and for maritime training programmes within IMO's mandate;
- .9 the enhancement of security in the seagoing maritime transport network, through assistance for all developing regions in the introduction and implementation of effective security measures, leading to the prevention and elimination of security incidents;
- .10 the development and effective implementation of an ITCP that reflects the needs of developing countries in ensuring compliance with and enforcement of IMO standards;
- .11 the establishment of an equitable mechanism to ensure the sustainable financing of the ITCP;
- .12 the identification of measurable support (in cash or in kind) from the maritime industry and partner organizations;
- .13 the development of innovative measures to deliver technical assistance making greater use in particular of information technology;

- .14 the development of appropriate technical assistance programmes to take into account any new and amended regulatory requirements (e.g. possible mandatory application of the IMDG Code);
- .15 the Committee's methods and organization of work, taking into account the directives contained in resolutions A.555(XII), A.777(18) and A.900(21).

LONG-TERM WORK PLAN OF THE FACILITATION COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD UP TO 2010

I OBJECTIVES

- 1 Pursuant to the provisions of Article I of the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic, 1965, the long-term work plan of the Facilitation Committee is to encourage the adoption of measures to facilitate and expedite international maritime traffic and to prevent unnecessary delays to ships, persons and property on board, including simplification, standardization and minimization of formalities, documentary requirements and procedures associated with the arrival, stay and departure of ships engaged on international voyages.
- 2 The Committee should also promote the acceptance and use of the IMO FAL Forms and introduce and adopt electronic data processing and interchange techniques to facilitate the clearance of ships, crews, passengers and cargo, effective port operation and vessel turnaround.
- 3 It should further provide the necessary machinery for performing any duties assigned to it and to maintain such close relations with other bodies as may further the relevant purposes of the Organization.

II SPECIFIC SUBJECTS*

- * 1 Implementation, interpretation and improvement of the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic (FAL), 1965, and its annex.
- * 2 Facilitation activities within the remit of the Organization including:
 - .1 promotional activities carried out in co-operation with Member Governments, FAL Contracting Governments and organizations concerned;
 - .2 facilitation aspects of forms and certificates emanating from other activities of the Organization.
- * 3 Implementation of uniform electronic messages for the arrival, stay and clearance of ships, persons and cargoes, including assistance to developing countries for the clearance of ships by electronic means.
- 4 Examination of elements of conventions, codes and recommendations relating to facilitation elaborated by other organizations.

* The subjects marked with an asterisk are considered to be high-priority subjects.

- * 5 Consideration and formulation of proposals for the general review of the FAL Convention or its annex, including harmonization with other relevant international instruments.
 - 6 Formalities connected with the arrival, stay and departure of ships, persons and cargo.
 - 7 Methods of handling cases involving inadequately documented passengers.
 - * 8 Facilitation aspects of IMO's work on enhancing maritime security.
 - 9 Facilitation aspects of IMO's work on prevention and suppression of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships and dealing with issues relating to trafficking or transport of migrants.
 - * 10 Facilitation measures and procedures for the treatment of persons rescued at sea.
 - 11 Facilitation aspects of measures to prevent and suppress illicit drug trafficking.
 - * 12 Ship/port interface matters.
 - * 13 Prevention and resolution of stowaway issues.
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