

**RESOLUTION A.494(XII)**

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

**REVISED INTERIM SCHEME FOR TONNAGE MEASUREMENT  
FOR CERTAIN SHIPS**

THE ASSEMBLY,

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

NOTING that the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969, will come into force on 18 July 1982,

REALIZING that tonnages determined under the 1969 Tonnage Convention can be sufficiently different from those determined under tonnage regulations presently in force to create difficulties in connexion with the application of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, in force,

RECALLING Recommendation 2 of the International Conference on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969, which, *inter alia*, recognized that the transition from existing tonnage measurement systems to the new system provided in the 1969 Tonnage Convention should cause the least possible impact on the economics of merchant ships,

BEARING IN MIND that the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea does not specifically define the gross tonnage of ships which should be measured for the purpose of application of the provisions of that Convention,

RECALLING ALSO that it adopted by resolution A.389(X) an interim scheme for tonnage measurement for certain ships, in order to overcome possible difficulties which might arise with regard to the application of the safety requirements in force for certain ships when measured in accordance with the 1969 Tonnage Convention in comparison with the national tonnage rules in effect prior to the coming into force of that Convention,

REALIZING that these difficulties will continue to exist in respect of compliance with Regulation 3 of Chapter IV of the 1974 SOLAS Convention, but that those difficulties may be resolved when a future global maritime distress and safety system enters into force,

BEING AWARE ALSO that similar difficulties will continue to exist in respect of other relevant provisions of the 1974 SOLAS Convention which are activated at 500 and 1,600 gross tons and that the first and second sets of amendments to the 1974 SOLAS Convention are currently under consideration,

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

1. REVOKES resolution A.389(X);
2. ADOPTS the following revised interim scheme for tonnage measurement for certain ships:

- (a) At the request of a shipowner, the Administration may allow a ship required to be measured under the provisions of the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969, to use the gross tonnage measured under the national tonnage rules which are in effect prior to the coming into force of the 1969 Tonnage Convention, for the purpose of application of the provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, such tonnage, however, shall not be shown on the 1969 Tonnage Certificate;
- (b) For such a ship, the appropriate box in the pertinent Ship Safety Certificate of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, in force, or other such official certificate issued by the Administration may show only the gross tonnage measured under the national tonnage rules which were in effect prior to the coming into force of the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships with the following footnote:

"The above gross tonnage has been measured by the tonnage authorities of the Administration in accordance with the national tonnage rules which were in force prior to the coming into force of the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969.";

3. AGREES that the interim scheme shall not apply to ships the keels of which are laid after 31 December 1985 with the following exceptions:

- (a) In respect of the requirements of Regulation 3 of Chapter IV of the 1974 SOLAS Convention for ships the keels of which are laid before 18 July 1994, the Administration may continue to apply the interim scheme, in which case the above-mentioned entry should be made in the Radiotelephony Certificate only; and
- (b) In respect of the regulations for cargo ships of less than 1,600 tons gross tonnage (as measured under national systems), the keels of which are laid after 31 December 1985, the Administration may continue to apply the interim scheme until 18 July 1994:

4. REQUESTS the Maritime Safety Committee to ensure that a complete and thorough analysis of the continued use of tonnage as a regulatory criterion in the current International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, and other conventions as appropriate, be completed not later than 31 December 1986, at which time the Maritime Safety Committee should consider the implications of the analysis;

5. INVITES Member Governments and Governments of States Parties to the aforementioned Convention to take cognizance and to accept the use of this interim scheme for the purpose of application of the provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea.