

**RESOLUTION A.641(16)**

*Adopted on 19 October 1989  
Agenda item 24*

**ARREARS OF CONTRIBUTIONS**

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Article 55(b) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization which provides that the Assembly shall apportion the expenses of the Organization in accordance with a scale to be fixed by it after consideration of the proposals of the Council thereon,

RECALLING ALSO Article 56 of the Convention which states that any Member which fails to discharge its financial obligation to the Organization within one year from the date on which it is due, shall have no vote in the Assembly, the Council, the Maritime Safety Committee, the Legal Committee, the Marine Environment Protection Committee or the Technical Co-operation Committee unless the Assembly, at its discretion, waives this provision,

RECALLING FURTHER regulation 5.4 of the Financial Regulations of the Organization, under which contributions are considered as due and payable in full within 30 days of receipt of the notice of assessment issued by the Secretary-General or as of the first day of the calendar year to which they relate, whichever is the later,

NOTING WITH CONCERN the growth, since its fifteenth session, in the number of Member States with arrears of contributions and in the amount of those arrears,

NOTING ALSO that the level of arrears of contributions has caused serious difficulties in the financial management of the Organization and in the execution of its work programme,

CONSIDERING that urgent action is now necessary to ensure the prompt payment by Member States of the approved level of annual assessments,

1. REQUESTS Member States to make payment of any arrears at the earliest date;
2. REQUESTS Member States to make payment of their contribution for the current year as soon as possible within the year in accordance with regulation 5.4 of the Financial Regulations;
3. INVITES the attention of Member States to the provisions of resolution A.629(15)B under which a contributions incentive scheme is currently in operation to encourage early payment of contributions;
4. REQUESTS the Council:
  - (a) to review the text of Article 56 of the IMO Convention with a view to making proposals which might provide for more precise criteria for its effective application;
  - (b) to make proposals for payment of arrears by instalment, in the light of experience gained with past instalment plans;

(c) for the longer-term, to review the current system for apportionment of contributions;

5. FURTHER REQUESTS the Council to submit its recommendations on the matters referred to in paragraph 4 above to the seventeenth session of the Assembly;

6. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to bring this resolution to the attention of all Member States, and to continue to take all possible steps to ensure prompt payment of each current year's contributions and of arrears of contributions.