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ASSEMBLY  
22nd session  
Agenda item 11

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**Resolution A.926(22)**

**Adopted on 29 November 2001  
(Agenda item 11)**

**AVAILABILITY AND USE OF LOW SULPHUR BUNKER FUEL OILS IN SO<sub>x</sub>  
EMISSION CONTROL AREAS DESIGNATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
REGULATION 14(3) OF ANNEX VI OF MARPOL 73/78**

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Article 15(j) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Assembly in relation to regulations and guidelines concerning the prevention and control of marine pollution from ships and other matters concerning the effect of shipping on the marine environment,

RECALLING FURTHER that, in line with Article 212 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982 (UNCLOS), resolution A.719(17) invited the MEPC to develop legally binding measures to reduce air pollution from ships through the preparation of a new Annex to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78),

RECALLING ALSO that, on 26 September 1997, Parties to MARPOL 73/78 adopted a new Annex to the Convention in order to reduce the contribution by shipping to air pollution,

RECOGNIZING that in order for these measures to reduce air pollution from ships to be effective in SO<sub>x</sub> Emission Control Areas, bunker fuel oil used must contain a lower sulphur percentage as prescribed in regulation 14(4)(a) of Annex VI of MARPOL 73/78, rather than the maximum permitted by regulation 14(1) of Annex VI of MARPOL 73/78,

RECOGNIZING ALSO that, in order to facilitate compliance with these requirements, low sulphur fuel oil should be available in sufficient quantities,

REAFFIRMING its endeavours to contribute to the reduction of air pollution from ships by all possible means,

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HAVING CONSIDERED the recommendation made by the Marine Environment Protection Committee at its forty-fourth session,

INVITES Governments, and more specifically those in geographical regions where SOx Emission Control Areas have been designated, to:

- (a) ensure the availability of low sulphur bunker fuel oil within their jurisdiction; and
  - (b) call on the oil and shipping industries to facilitate the availability and use of low sulphur bunker fuel oil.
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