

**RESOLUTION A.394(X)**

*Adopted on 14 November 1977  
Agenda item 9*

**RECOMMENDATION ON PROHIBITION OF THE BULK CARRIAGE  
OF POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS**

THE ASSEMBLY,

NOTING Article 16(i) of the Convention on the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization concerning the functions of the Assembly,

NOTING the severe pollution hazard of the carriage of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and their persistence in the marine environment,

RECOGNIZING that although the production and use of PCBs were being phased out in many countries, wastes containing those substances would continue to be transported at sea for some years to come,

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that incineration at sea was a possible method for the disposal of PCBs and that carriage by incinerator ships for the purpose of incineration permitted under the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (London Dumping Convention) should not be subject to the prohibition,

HAVING CONSIDERED the Recommendation by the Marine Environment Protection Committee and the views expressed by the Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Dumping Convention on the prohibition of the bulk carriage of PCBs,

INVITES governments to take steps to ensure that:

- (a) the bulk carriage of PCBs by ships is prohibited except where this may be permitted under any Regulations or Technical Guidelines for the purpose of incineration at sea adopted by the Contracting Parties to the London Dumping Convention, or other compatible Regulations or Guidelines adopted by the Contracting Parties to regional conventions; and
- (b) the operational discharge into the sea of tank washings from tanks of incinerator ships containing PCBs is prohibited.