

Resolution A.832(19)
adopted on 23 November 1995
(Agenda item 12)

**FOLLOW-UP ACTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, 1992**

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Articles 1(d) and 2(a) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, respectively concerning the purposes of the Organization and the performance of functions by the Assembly in relation to consideration of any matters concerning shipping and the effect of shipping on the marine environment that may be referred to it by any organ or specialized agency of the United Nations,

RECALLING ALSO that Article 15(i) of the Convention, in defining the functions of the Assembly, *inter alia*, relating to Article 2(a), requires the Assembly to refer such matters to the Council for formulation by it of any recommendations or instruments thereon,

RECALLING FURTHER that by resolution A.731(17) of 7 November 1991, the IMO Assembly recommended that the Secretary-General ensure active participation in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) with a view to ensuring that appropriate aspects of IMO's work were duly taken into account in the deliberations, documents and decisions thereof and, as appropriate, in the follow-up activities,

AWARE that by resolution 47/190 of 22 December 1992, the General Assembly endorsed, *inter alia*, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and Agenda 21, as adopted at UNCED on 14 June 1992 and that by resolution 47/191 United Nations specialized agencies were requested to strengthen and adjust their activities, programmes and medium-term plans, as appropriate, in line with Agenda 21,

AWARE ALSO that General Assembly resolution 47/191 requests the United Nations specialized agencies to report on steps taken to strengthen and adjust their activities in line with Agenda 21,

NOTING that the Marine Environment Protection Committee, as IMO's focal point for UNCED follow-up actions, approved in November 1994 a report to the Commission on Sustainable Development in fulfilment of General Assembly resolution 47/191,

NOTING FURTHER that in pursuing its role as focal point for UNCED follow-up, the MEPC had:

- referred to other Committees and Sub-Committees its analysis of those aspects of Agenda 21 of specific relevance to them for action, as appropriate;
- adopted the Guidelines on Incorporation of the Precautionary Approach in the Context of Specific IMO Activities in respect of its own work;
- adopted an UNCED follow-up strategy for IMO in respect of extra-budgetary activities,

NOTING ALSO that on 6 November 1995, in Washington D.C., USA, the Intergovernmental Conference adopted a Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities,

RECOMMENDS:

- 1 that the MEPC keep the maritime sector's contribution to UNCED implementation under continuous review with the aim of facilitating and assisting follow-up by Member States on those elements of Agenda 21 falling within IMO's mandate,
- 2 that the MEPC should revise and update the above-mentioned report to CSD at regular intervals to keep CSD informed of progress,
- 3 that the Guidelines on Incorporation of the Precautionary Approach in the Context of Specific IMO Activities, which have been adopted by the MEPC, be kept under review and, in co-operation with the other relevant IMO bodies, be considered for submission to the twentieth session of the Assembly,
- 4 that the Secretary-General maintain liaison with UNEP, the designated secretariat for the Global Programme of Action, in respect of follow-up to the above-mentioned Intergovernmental Conference, with a view to ensuring good co-ordination and the avoidance of overlapping with IMO's field of competence,
- 5 that the Secretary-General ensure the continuing and active participation of the IMO Secretariat in all relevant aspects of the follow-up to UNCED, in particular regarding chapter 17 of Agenda 21 entitled "Protection of the oceans, all kinds of seas, including enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, and coastal areas and the protection, rational use and development of their living resources".