

RESOLUTION A.305(VIII)

*Adopted on 23 November 1973
Agenda item 23*

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME SATELLITE SYSTEM

THE ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING the need to improve maritime communications including distress and safety services,

BEING OF THE OPINION that a maritime satellite system should be established as soon as possible to meet this need,

NOTING Article 3(b) of the Convention on the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization concerning the convening of conferences,

BEARING IN MIND its decision that IMCO should play an active role in the early organization and implementation of such a system,

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION:

- (a) the timetable for the establishment of a Maritime Satellite System contained in the Report of the first session of the Panel of Experts on Maritime Satellites and approved at the twenty-sixth session of the Maritime Safety Committee;
- (b) the preparatory studies carried out by the Organization on institutional, financial, technical, operational and legal aspects,

RESOLVES:

- (a) to convene an International Conference of Governments for a period of two-and-a-half weeks in the early part of 1975 to decide on the principle of setting up an international maritime satellite system; and if it accepts this principle, to conclude agreements to give effect to this decision;
- (b) to request the Maritime Safety Committee to formulate the appropriate provisional agenda of the Conference, having regard to the list of items given in the Appendix to this Resolution,

INVITES the Secretary-General to make all the required arrangements for the Conference including the issue of invitations to States, Members of the United Nations, of any of the Specialized Agencies, of the International Atomic Energy Agency or Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and to such inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations as are usually invited to send observers to Conferences convened by IMCO.

APPENDIX

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR INCLUSION IN THE AGENDA OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Operational requirements of the System;
2. Overall basic technical parameters of a first phase System including its interface with the terrestrial telecommunication networks;
3. Economic assessment of the System, including its cost/benefit to the maritime community;
4. Organizational and institutional arrangements for the establishment of the System, covering *inter alia* operating, technical, administrative, financial and legal aspects;
5. Consequential action for the development and implementation of the System.