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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE
SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND
RECYCLING OF SHIPS
Hong Kong, China, 11-15 May 2009

SR/CONF/DC/3
14 May 2009
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Agenda Item 8

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**FINAL ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE SAFE AND
ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND RECYCLING OF SHIPS**

Text examined and approved by the Drafting Committee

1 In accordance with Article 2(b) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, the Council of the Organization, at its ninety-seventh session in November 2006, approved the request of the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the Organization at its fifty-fifth session in October 2006, that a diplomatic Conference be convened to consider the adoption of an International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships. This decision was endorsed by the Assembly of the Organization at its twenty-fifth regular session by resolution A.991(25) of 29 November 2007 on the Programme Budget for the Twenty-Fifth Financial Period 2008-2009.

2 The Conference was held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Hong Kong, China, from 11 to 15 May 2009.

3 Representatives of 63 States participated in the Conference, namely the representatives of:

ANGOLA	DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	REPUBLIC OF KOREA
ARGENTINA	DENMARK
AUSTRALIA	EGYPT
BAHAMAS	ESTONIA
BANGLADESH	FINLAND
BELGIUM	FRANCE
BRAZIL	GERMANY
BULGARIA	GHANA
CAMEROON	GREECE
CANADA	INDIA
CHILE	INDONESIA
CHINA	IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)
CONGO	IRAQ
COOK ISLANDS	IRELAND
CYPRUS	ITALY



JAPAN	QATAR
KENYA	REPUBLIC OF KOREA
LIBERIA	RUSSIAN FEDERATION
LUXEMBOURG	SAUDI ARABIA
MALAYSIA	SENEGAL
MALTA	SINGAPORE
MARSHALL ISLANDS	SOUTH AFRICA
MEXICO	SPAIN
MYANMAR	SWEDEN
NETHERLANDS	SWITZERLAND
NIGERIA	THAILAND
NORWAY	TURKEY
PAKISTAN	UNITED KINGDOM OF
PANAMA	GREAT BRITAIN AND
PHILIPPINES	NORTHERN IRELAND
POLAND	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
PORTUGAL	VANUATU

4 The following Associate Members of the Organization sent observers to the Conference:

HONG KONG, CHINA
MACAO, CHINA

5 The Conference was also attended by representatives from the following United Nations Programme and specialized agency:

UN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)
INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO)

6 The following intergovernmental organization sent observers to the Conference:

EUROPEAN COMMISSION (EC)

7 The following non-governmental organizations sent observers to the Conference:

INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF SHIPPING (ICS)
BIMCO
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES (IACS)
OIL COMPANIES INTERNATIONAL MARINE FORUM (OCIMF)
FRIENDS OF THE EARTH INTERNATIONAL (FOEI)
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT TANKER OWNERS
(INTERTANKO)
GREENPEACE INTERNATIONAL
INTERNATIONAL PARCEL TANKERS ASSOCIATION (IPTA)

8 The Conference was opened by Mr. E.E. Mitropoulos, Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization.

9 Mr. Donald Tsang, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, delivered a welcome address at the opening session of the Conference.

10 Mr. Xu Zuyuan, Head of the Delegation of China, was elected President of the Conference.

11 The Vice-Presidents elected by the Conference were:

Mr. Binyah Kesselly (Liberia)
Ms Liliana Fernandez Puentes (Panama)
Captain Suat Hayri Aka (Turkey)

12 The Secretariat of the Conference consisted of the following officers:

Secretary-General:	Mr. E.E. Mitropoulos Secretary-General of the Organization
Executive Secretary:	Mr. M. Palomares Director, Marine Environment Division
Deputy Executive Secretaries:	Mr. Du Dachang Senior Deputy Director Marine Environment Division
	Mr. N. Mikelis Senior Implementation Officer Marine Environment Division

13 The Conference established a Committee of the Whole with the mandate to consider the draft International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships and the draft Conference resolutions.

14 The Conference also established a Drafting Committee with the mandate to finalize the texts of the Final Act of the Conference, the International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships and the Conference resolutions. The Drafting Committee was composed of representatives of the following States:

CHILE
CHINA
FRANCE
INDONESIA
RUSSIAN FEDERATION
SAUDI ARABIA

SPAIN
UNITED KINGDOM OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

15 A Credentials Committee was appointed to examine credentials of representatives attending the Conference. The Credentials Committee was composed of representatives of the following States:

ANGOLA
AUSTRALIA
BAHAMAS
BANGLADESH
IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)

16 The officers elected for the Committees were as follows:

Committee of the Whole:

Chairman: Mr. Andreas Chrysostomou (Cyprus)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. Shinichiro Otsubo (Japan)
Mr. Sveinung Oftedal (Norway)

Drafting Committee:

Chairman: Mr. Charles Darr (United States)

Vice-Chairman Mrs. Claude Wohrer (France)

Credentials Committee:

Chairman: Mr. Md. Masud Elahi (Bangladesh)

17 The Conference used as the basis of its work the draft text of the International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships prepared by the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the Organization.

18 Also before the Conference were a number of documents containing proposals and comments submitted by Governments and interested organizations on the above-mentioned draft text.

19 As a result of its deliberations the Conference adopted the following instrument:

HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND RECYCLING OF SHIPS, 2009

20 The Conference also adopted the following resolutions, which are contained in the Attachment to this Final Act:

Resolution 1: Expression of appreciation to the host Government

Resolution 2: Contribution of the Parties to the Basel Convention and the International Labour Organization in the development of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009

Resolution 3: Promotion of technical co-operation and assistance

Resolution 4: Future work by the Organization pertaining to the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009

Resolution 5: Early implementation of the technical standards of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009

Resolution 6: Exploration and monitoring of the best practices for fulfilling the requirements of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009

21 This Final Act is established in a single original text in the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish languages, which is to be deposited with the Secretary-General of the Organization.

22 The Secretary-General shall send certified copies of this Final Act with its Attachment, and certified copies of the authentic text of the instrument referred to in paragraph 19 above, to the Governments of the States invited to be represented at the Conference.

DONE IN HONG KONG, CHINA, this fifteenth day of May, two thousand and nine.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned have affixed their signatures to this Final Act.
