THE ASSEMBLY,

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

RECALLING its Resolution A.176(VI) by which it decided to convene in 1973, an international conference on marine pollution for the purpose of preparing a suitable international agreement for placing restraints on the contamination of the sea, land and air by ships, vessels and other equipment operating in the marine environment and called upon the Maritime Safety Committee to proceed with its work on marine pollution with all possible speed in co-ordination with other interested organizations,

NOTING further its Resolution A.237(VII) by which it decided that the 1973 Conference shall have as its main objective the achievement by 1975 if possible but certainly by the end of the decade, of the complete elimination of the wilful and intentional pollution of the seas by oil and noxious substances other than oil and the minimization of accidental spills,
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ENDORSES the decisions taken by the Council at its twenty-sixth session, concerning the subject matter for the Conference and other matters relating to the prevention of marine pollution (MSC XXIV/3/1), and the Reports of the Maritime Safety Committee with respect to the preparatory work now in progress,

RECOGNIZING the imperative need to achieve this objective and the need for policy directives if the preparatory work on marine pollution is to be successful in meeting the objectives which are inherent in its decision to hold the Conference,

REAFFIRMS its decision to convene such Conference and to provide the means therefor,

REQUESTS Council, the Maritime Safety Committee and the Legal Committee to proceed as a matter of urgency with the necessary preparations,

AUTHORIZES Council, in the light of further progress made in the preparatory work within the Organization and also developments in the United Nations system, to provide appropriate policy directives and make such modifications to the subject matter of the Conference as it may consider necessary and to fix the precise date of the Conference to be convened in 1973,

INVITES the Secretary-General to make all the requisite arrangements for the Conference including the issue of invitations to States, Members of the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency and Parties to the Statutes of the International Court of Justice together with Observers from such governmental and non-governmental organizations as are normally present at Conferences convened by IMCO.